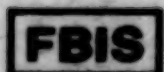


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24 March 1980

Latin America Report

No. 2125



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24 March 1980

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

CARICOM COUNCIL MEETING--The 15th meeting of the CARICOM Council of Ministers is scheduled to be held at the CARICOM Secretariat in Georgetown, Guyana, on 26-27 March. However, Secretariat sources explain that not all member countries have confirmed acceptance of the date. The meeting is to be preceded by a 2-day conference of officials to draw up the final agenda for the Council of Ministers that will include recent developments within the integration movement. [FL122050 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 12 Mar 80 FL]

CARICOM TRAVELERS CHECKS--Banking officials from CARICOM states are to meet in Port of Spain, Trinidad, on 20-21 March to finalize arrangements for the introduction of regional travelers checks. According to informed sources in Barbados, the checks would be available in April or May. The checks will be of various denominations in the currency of Trinidad and Tobago with the scheme to be executed by national central banks and the East Caribbean currency authority. [FL112131 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 11 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

FORMER PREMIER'S APPEAL--Former Antiguan Premier (George Walter) will know in a few weeks time whether his appeal against a 3-year jail conviction for misconduct and corruption has been successful. Mr (Walter's) appeal was lodged with the West Indies Associated States Court of Appeals which yesterday began a 2-week sitting in Antigua. However, Chief Justice (Sir Morris Davis) said that fragmentation of the court since the Grenadian revolution last March had imposed great constraints on its operations. Thus, the panel of judges had been delayed in completing its decision on the appeal from the former Antiguan premier. Mr (Walter's) appeal had been heard from last November. While the results of the appeal is pending Mr (Walter) has been banned from contesting any elections. General elections in Antigua are constitutionally due in 1981 but are widely expected to take place this year. [Text] [FL112131 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 11 Mar 80 FL]

SWISS REFINERY DEAL--St. John's Antigua, Tuesday (CANA)--The Antigua Government today announced it had sold three-quarters of its assets in a moth-balled oil refinery here to a Swiss financial group, so as to reactivate the plant "within this year". A statement by Minister of Economic Development Mr. Lester Bird, said the Swiss Inter-maritime Management Services were paying EC\$16.2 million (US\$6 million) for the refinery which will be "fully restored and operational within this year". He envisaged that the 15,000 barrel per day refinery could recruit about 100 employees shortly. Negotiations for the take-over took place in Geneva on January 15, said Mr. Bird, and the transaction was completed in Antigua on January 31. The Antigua Government retains a 25 per cent interest in the company formed to operate the refinery, National Petroleum Limited, so as "to maintain a degree of control of the industry and to participate in its policy and decision-making process, the deputy premier said. Under the package agreement Antigua guarantees a supply of crude for National Petroleum's operations and Mr. Bird said Antigua has assurances of a reliable supply. He said however, that Antigua would shortly send a team to Caracas, to complete arrangements Premier Vere Bird made their last year with Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins. [Excerpt] [FL090205 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 5 Mar 80 p 3 FL]

UCR OFFICIAL CRITICIZES VIDELA'S DIALOG PLAN

PY080309 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2220 GMT 7 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (NA)--Raul Alfonsin, leader of the Radical Civic Union (UCR) and of the intransigence and renovation movement, criticized the message delivered by President Jorge Rafael Videla yesterday and said that "discussions on how to carry out the transfer of power should begin immediately."

In response to questions by NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Alfonsin said that "General Videla repeats once again the speech we have been listening to for more than 4 years."

He said: "He has declared victory over subversion." He then asked himself: "What is now the ethical justification for the armed forces to remain in the government? Is it to impose political policies no one desires?"

He added that "dialog has been divided into two chapters. One is the structural aspect and the other is the instrumental aspect."

He said: "If respect for the constitution and the restoration of democracy are what is really being sought, it is clear that there is no need to discuss objectives, a stage which must be avoided so that we can immediately begin discussions on how to carry out the transfer of power in accordance with the national constitution."

He added: "If, on the contrary, the purpose is to divert, then civilians will carry out their own dialog and will mobilize to demand respect for their rights, a right they are not willing to transfer to three men."

In conclusion Alfonsin said that "if this becomes the case, it should be known that there cannot be any confusion, and that no accusations can be made against a people who have decided to definitely being the movement imposed by their own dignity in order to recover their sovereignty."

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINA

UCR SECRETARY CRITICIZES VIDELA'S DIALOG PROPOSAL

PY072114 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0155 GMT 6 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA)--Luis Leon, Radical Civic Union [UCR] national board secretary, tonight said that President Videla's speech "underestimates the real Argentina" and that "we cannot continue talking about democracy without practicing it."

Leon said: "The perpetuation of the present power structure destroys dialog. I have serious doubts about accepting a dialog with a power structure that does not represent the will of the people."

He noted: "I listened to President Videla more as an Argentine than as a politician. I had hoped that he would have the attitude of a statesman. The speech, however, shows that there are no rectifications and that there is insistence on a dangerous paternalism."

Leon added: "We all agree that an institutionalization is necessary, but I believe that this is impossible without the participation of the people."

The former senator also said that "the perpetuation of the present power structure is a denial of democracy." He added: "I am convinced that there is a need for national unity, but the path to be followed is a different one."

He noted: "The armed forces should rest assured that our people will be always ready to defend our national sovereignty. But the armed forces insist on announcing democracy without having the courage to create those institutions that support it, such as public freedoms, political rights and the use of mass media."

According to Leon, "Argentina is a democracy that is part of the Western world; it is not a one-party democracy without dialog. President Videla seems to say in his message that only after the structural and implementation stages have been completed can political parties be recognized. I believe that it should be the other way around."

CSO: 3010

JUSTICIALIST LEADER COMMENTS ON VIDELA SPEECH

PY071447 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0115 GMT 7 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA)--Justicialist Party leader Vicente Saadi said today that President Videla's message on political dialog was "ambiguous, quiescent, and proscriptive" since it "did not answer any of the demands recently made by the many political parties."

In a statement to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS minutes after the president ended his message, Saadi said that "there were few positive things in Videla's speech." He added: "The only specific and positive aspect (of the presidential message) was his admission that all Argentine sectors are responsible for achieving a national solution. He did not specify, however, the degree of responsibility of each sector."

Saadi said that the rest of the speech was "ambiguous, quiescent, and proscriptive" since "it did not answer any of the demands made recently by the Peronists, Radicalists and other political parties." He added: "A dialog based on rigid norms is not a dialog, it is submission."

The Justicialist leader said that Videla's speech "does not offer a prudent or reasonable solution." He added that the armed forces "are a part of Argentine society. They do not make up the entire Argentine society and cannot, therefore, establish such rigid norms regarding the future of the fatherland."

Concerning the way in which democracy must be strengthened in Argentina, Saadi said that "true democracy is established through the sovereign will of the people." Concerning the exemptions from the political dialog that Videla mentioned, he said that "the only exemptions that can be applied in a democracy are those established by the laws issued by the proper body that has been created by the national constitution." He noted: "The speech was so ambiguous that those exemptions could actually be applied to the entire country."

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINA

INTERIOR MINISTER INAUGURATES GOVERNORS MEETING

PY111840 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1550 GMT 11 Mar 80 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (NA)--Today Interior Minister Gen Albano Harguindeguy reasserted that "the process has no deadlines." He made this statement when inaugurating the first governors conference of the year held in this capital in the course of which the governors will be instructed about the implementation of the armed forces political bases. They will also talk about the main concerns of their provinces.

General Harguindeguy pointed out that the basic documents of the process "clearly state that the government's actions will be based on pragmatic solutions, adjusted to reality and to the final objective which is sought" and "that under no circumstances will it be linked to any sectorial or partisan interests. Only the national interest leads us to the deep changes which the country demands and the people expect."

The meeting started at 0905 in the former city council hall, and it will continue until Thursday midday, when President Gen Jorge Rafael Videla will make his announced speech.

When General Harguindeguy noted in his inauguration speech that the process "has no deadlines," he pointed out that "only when the foreseen objectives--which belong to the country and are for the country--are achieved will a solution which grants continuity to the process be implemented."

At the beginning of his speech Harguindeguy stated that the central and provincial governments "have the necessary bases to assume our respective responsibilities in this phase which the process of national reorganization is beginning."

He then said that the purpose of the meeting is to hear the governors' points of view regarding the context of the political bases. Regarding its implementation he said that "only once I have given the guidelines will the governors complete their plans with an analysis of the possibilities in their provinces so that they may be made known during this meeting."

Harguindeguy said that "there is nothing better than the governors' own experience and their capacity to receive, direct and convey opinions and suggestions which will serve the purpose of enriching this document."

In this regard he asserted that "the political bases fully adjust to the president's repeatedly explained viewpoint because it explains the ideology, the model of a country and at the same time establishes the general guidelines for its implementation and execution."

He added that "this could not be otherwise because a set of ideas which lacks the course of action for their execution would be reduced to a mere intellectual exercise. On the other hand, a plan of action which lacks an ideology to support it, to encourage it, would lack coherence and essential content."

Finally, he stated that "these concepts are valid and maintain validity in this phase we now begin. We will continue to adjust our actions to these concepts because they respond to a permanent concern over national problems, to a strict and constant analysis of the Argentine reality and to the experience gained in previous military interventions in the country's institutional history."

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINA

ARGENTINE DAILY INTERVIEWS GRAFFIGNA DURING BRAZIL VISIT

PY111421 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 9 Mar 80 pp 2-4 PY

[Report on interview with Argentine Air Force Commander Brig Gen Omar Domingo Rubens Graffigna given at Ipanema beach during his Brazil visit to CLARIN special correspondent Ramon Andino--date of interview not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Leaders of a political current who recently had lunch with the interior minister believed--according to statements by the minister himself--that the present power structure might be extended until about 1990. Can this happen, or will the civilians elect the officials of the country after the next military president?

[Answer] The answer to your question depends on the results achieved in the development of the political dialog. Right now it would be meaningless to make a categorical judgment on the matter, because it would mean recognizing the existence of an electoral schedule which has never been announced and which will basically be established according to the progress of the national reorganization process and the achievement of its objectives.

[Question] Are you in favor of the idea that the process should have its own "offspring" or whatever you prefer to call it, through a political party in agreement with its general guidelines, or through an open political pattern which dispenses with military power?

[Answer] I am in favor of putting an end to the almost regular transitions back and forth between civilian and military governments. The armed forces are a significant sector of the country, and according to the political bases they will have decisionmaking power regarding the conduct of strategy, national security and the defense of the constitution.

Regarding what you call "offspring," this should be taken to mean that those who inherit this process or succeed us should be wholly identified with the irrevocable traditions of the Argentine people. They should share the guiding ideas of security, prosperity, order and justice; of a strong and stable, representative, republican and federal democracy; and of a resolution to live according to the spirit and essence of the Christian West.

But the basic fact is that the process should be "transcendental," and this cannot be achieved until all of its basic objectives are reached.

[Question] The Argentine labor union leadership is making appeals in the courts while at the same time respecting the terms of the labor union law. How do you look upon the actions of the leaders, and what is your opinion on future labor union developments?

[Answer] There is no doubt that in the field of labor unions the intention of the majority is to comply with the legal rules, which will allow the workers to create organizations which really look after their interests without disregarding the common interests of the nation.

To put it briefly, I look upon this situation as a positive response which tends toward initiating the final normalization of the labor organizations.

[Question] Do you believe that the labor movement will participate in the political activities of the nation in the future, or will it remain totally aloof?

[Answer] The law for professional associations deals with this matter in a very clear-cut manner as far as labor associations are concerned; however, it does nothing to prevent the worker, as a citizen, from participating in political activities in line with his rights and duties. We must understand once and for all that the greatness of the nation and the well-being of its people can be attained only through everyday efforts within the framework of every one of the components of the modern state and not only in the political sector.

[Question] Could the junta amend decisions concerning persons affected by the institutional act, such as Mrs Isabel Peron and Lorenzo Miguel, for example?

[Answer] The institutional act dated 18 June 1976 empowers the military junta to review the behavior of those persons who have severely harmed the nation's supreme interests. Even though this power implies the possibility of reconsideration, it does not necessarily mean an amendment of the conclusions reached at one time.

[Question] You stated recently that we are beginning to have a more rational, less moralistic relationship with the United States as a result of the grain problem and the worldwide situation. Does this mean that the United States changes its foreign policy according to the circumstances and that Goodpaster's and Smith's missions are an example of this attitude?

[Answer] I am optimistic with regard to the establishment of a positive dialog with the United States, a dialog on clear-cut bases which would leave no room for any kind of interference which is detrimental to the individual characteristics of the states and their components, be they political, economic or cultural.

Only if this attitude of mutual respect is accepted once and for all will we be able to reach a significant level of understanding, which is urgently needed to preserve hemispheric security and cooperate toward the solution of the economic problems which are already too much for the international cooperation system.

[PY111734] [Question] Several church sources have indicated that the pope's visit to Argentina is a fact. It has been said over and over again that his holiness' visit to Argentina was tied to the success of the Vatican's mediation. Does this mean that the formula to solve the southern conflict has been found or is about to be found?

[Answer] To have an idea of how the negotiations have been developing all you have to do is read the periodic tripartite communiques which have been simultaneously released in the Vatican, Santiago and Buenos Aires. We believe that we will find--with the invaluable aid of His Holiness John Paul II--a final, just, equitable and honorable solution for the conflict.

As to the visit of the holy father, we are sure that it will take place whenever his agenda and prior commitments allow it.

[Question] Is Argentina prepared to accept the results of the pope's mediation as a whole?

[Answer] The request for aid from the mediator is an act of faith in His Holiness John Paul II.

As it has been said many times before, trust--with a capital "T"--is the basic requirement for the success of the mediation.

We are fully convinced that his holiness' intervention will allow us to find an honorable and equitable solution.

[Question] Taking into account that to find a solution for the Beagle conflict, positions will have to become more flexible, how flexible can our delegation be toward the fulfillment of our demands?

[Answer] The process of negotiations is being constantly improved by ideas which crop up during negotiations; thus, our delegation is in constant touch with the appropriate government organization to have the best possible support at all times for our country's position and for the protection of the process of negotiation.

[Question] How do you foresee the development of political and economic relations with Brazil, bearing in mind that Brazil's growth in the last decade has been far greater than Argentina's?

[Answer] Since the reopening of talks concerning the reconciliation of Corpus and Itaipu, the relationship with Brazil has experienced a constant and sustained growth.

We are engaged in exploring every possible channel of responsible cooperation which will allow us to reconcile our mutual interest and to increase the progress and security of both peoples, in a manner compatible with their respective national objectives.

[Question] Various private specialized institutions, such as the Foundation for Latin American Economic Research (FIEL), and various business chambers (the Center of Iron and Steel Industrialists, the Construction Chamber, the Rubber Chamber and the Federation of Textile Industries, among others) have remarked on a significant decline in economic activities since the end of 1979. What is your branch's view of this phenomenon?

[Answer] I am already aware of the results of the surveys and studies of some of the organizations you just mentioned. According to them, economic activities began to decline in the third quarter of 1979.

I believe that if there is an economic recession it will be slight and short lived if interest rates are firmly lowered (and this is happening every day), if prices cease climbing (and the indicators show that this is so if compared to last year's) and if we bear in mind that these two factors could take place easily because the stocks are not very large and could be used up rapidly [as published]. I believe that if this happens we can expect a slow but sustained recovery in the second half of 1980.

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINA

MORE FLEXIBLE LAW ON ISSUING VISAS TO COMMUNISTS

PY071327 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1910 GMT 6 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA)--The laws regulating the entrance to Argentina of foreigners from communist countries or from popular democratic systems have been amended by the Argentine Government. The objective of this measure is "to speed up the procedures" for obtaining the proper visas. The Argentine Government House today issued the text of Law No 22,180 that amends the previous law.

The new law establishes that all citizens from communist countries or popular democratic governments that enter Argentina must state the activities they will carry out in the country and comply with the usual documentation requirements. The new law amends articles two, three and eight of Decree Law No 2,457 issued in 1963.

It notes that the new amendment, without jeopardizing national security, was issued exclusively to eliminate the set of fingerprint cards each applicant had to complete in his country. The new law states: "It must be noted that compliance with this requirement is offensive to the applicants since in their country of origin only those who go to jail must comply with this kind of legal requirement."

The new law also eliminates in all cases the need for a variola vaccine certificate. This was established by a resolution issued in 1976 by the National Health Secretariat. Furthermore, it also eliminates the need to submit a good-conduct certificate or a certificate establishing that the applicant has no criminal record since these countries issue passports only to those citizens who meet these requirements.

CSO: 3010

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

GRAFFIGNA RETURNS FROM BRAZIL--Buenos Aires, 10 Mar (TELAM)--Lt Gen Omar D. Graffigna, commander in chief of the air force, returned here from Sao Paulo today, thus ending a 1-week official visit to Brazil. The T-53 aircraft that brought him back landed at the military sector of Jorge Newbery airport at 1855. [Text] [PY110042 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2200 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY]

U.S. CREDIT OFFER--The U.S. commercial mission headed by Under Secretary of Commerce Luther H. Hodges has made a concrete offer of a \$1,200 million credit to carry out 19 projects, among them the purchasing of turbines for the Yacyreta dam. [PY121325 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Mar 80 PY]

LOAN OBTAINED--Lloyd's International Bank of London has announced that Argentina has obtained a \$250 million loan from a consortium of 16 banks from various countries. The loan agreement was signed by Francisco Soldati, Argentine central bank president and Carlos Ortiz de Rosa, Argentine ambassador to England. [PY121325 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Mar 80 PY]

VOLKSWAGEN EXECUTIVES VISIT--(Wilhem Hauret) and (Paul Wetert), Brazilian and German Volkswagen executives, have arrived in the country. Both executives will hold talks with Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz about purchasing the state mechanical industry complex. [PY121325 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Mar 80 PY]

SUBVERSIVES SENTENCED--Santa Fe, 5 Mar (NA)--A federal court has sentenced 21 subversives to from 3 to 8 years in prison. The subversives are members of the Revolutionary People's Army (ERP) and the Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT). [PY060311 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Mar 80 PY]

U.S. COMMERCIAL MISSION--A U.S. commercial mission which arrived here recently will begin its official activities this week. The mission is headed by Under Secretary of Commerce Luther H. Hodges, who is accompanied by U.S. officials and businessmen. Their aim is to improve Argentine-U.S. commercial relations. [PY101635 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY]

NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICIAL RESIGNS--Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (NA)--Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz has ordered that the resignation of Ricardo Alberto Paz, renewable natural resources under secretary, be accepted. [PY131743 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1136 GMT 13 Mar 80 PY]

CSO: 3010

BAHAMAS

SOLOMON ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF NEW PARTY

FL041535 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 29 Feb 80 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] Official opposition leader Norman Solomon today announced the formation of the Social Democratic Party of the Bahamas.

And, he invited all Bahamians committed to the social and democratic process "to join in building an effective alternative to the present government."

Mr Solomon, formerly the shadow minister of finance with the minority Bahamian Democratic Party, resigned from that organisation shortly before it merged with the Free National Movement.

With him went Marsh Harbour MP Michael Lighbourn, Shirleya MP Keith Duncombe and Clarence Town MP James Knowles. Those four outnumbered the combined BDP-FNM to become the official opposition.

A great deal of thought, he said, has gone into the selection process and the choice of name is significant.

By calling themselves the Social Democratic Party, Mr Solomon said, they are indicating their primary interest in the Bahamian people.

"We are called democratic for all the obvious reasons, and for the less obvious reason that true democracy is in a state of decline in the Bahamas," Mr Solomon said. "We need a constant reminder of how important it is to all of us that our rights and freedoms be protected from further erosion."

Over the past several years, he said, that part of the electorate who did not vote for the PLP have been without any viable political leadership able to present an effective alternative to the PLP government.

"The Bahamas is at a political crossroads," Mr Solomon said. "The first priority of the Social Democratic Party is to develop public opinion to resist the erosion of the basic rights and freedoms of the average Bahamian."

"Our second priority is to project our own contribution to national development by sponsoring legislation, suggesting programmes, proposing alternatives, pointing out errors, and checking abuse of power.

"Thirdly, the Social Democratic Party fully accepts the need to package ourselves as a viable alternative to the present government.

"It is time for us to break away from the confused and ineffective past in opposition politics in this country.

"The conditions which gave rise to 1967 have changed. History has overtaken us. Today, the PLP is neither progressive nor liberal, and the Social Democratic Party is ready to step into the breach."

CSO: 3020

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

EEC AID--Agriculture in the southeastern Bahamas and several other development projects in other areas will receive a significant boost. About 3 million dollars will be made available to the Government of the Bahamas by the European Economic Community for the financing of development projects. This was disclosed yesterday at the signing of [word indistinct] program of community cooperation between the EEC and the Bahamas Government. The signing came at the end of 2 days of negotiations between a delegation from the European Economic Community led by Mr Michael Hauswirth and the Bahamas delegation led by Financial Secretary Mrs (Evelyn Issacs). [Excerpt]
[FL121420 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 12 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SWITZERLAND--Barbados and Switzerland today established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. A government-released (?statement) issued in Barbados said the establishment of relations was expected to serve the dual interests of Barbados in the area of diplomatic and international services and in opening an avenue for a more equal trade relationship with Switzerland. The Swiss capital, Geneva, is the seat of several UN agencies, including the International Labor Organization, the UN Conference on Trade and Development and the World Health Organization. The Headquarters of GATT, the general agreement on tariffs and trade, are also located in Geneva, one of Europe's leading financial capitals. [Text] [FLO42124 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 4 Mar 80 FL]

FAO-FUNDED CONSULTANCY--Barbados is to receive a 20,000 dollar grant from the Food and Agriculture Organization, the FAO, to finance a 1-month consultancy in sugar cane harvest mechanization. An official announcement in Barbados today said the consultant will advise cane growers on the requirements for efficient harvest mechanization. The consultant is scheduled to arrive not later than 17 March. [FL1112131 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 11 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

CHILE

COMMENTATOR VIEWS ARGENTINE 'ANTI-CHILE CAMPAIGN'

PY101600 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY

[Commentary by Rafael Kittsteiner]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, this week starts with a general question: What news will our Argentine neighbors have for us now that some sectors and individuals in that country seem to have resumed the 1978 anti-Chile campaign? Their steps are so well known, public, clear and evident that there is no need to discuss them. The Argentine Government is concerned about this but keeps a respectful silence so as not to hinder the Holy See's mediation entrusted to Cardinal Samore at the beginning of January 1979 by Argentina and Chile.

But at the same time that the Argentine Government House keeps this respectful silence, media organizations--such as the magazine CONVICTION and some Argentine radio stations--and personalities--like Adm Isaac Rojas and Gen (Osiris Villegas), whose ideals are already well known--appear to be promoting what is virtually the beginning of an atmosphere of verbal aggressiveness, which requires the taking of extreme positions. This campaign arises due to extreme nationalism, which already did enough damage to Chilean-Argentine relations 14 months ago.

It seems once again that Argentina does not have much confidence in its rights over its southern possessions. Others think that Argentina believes it has lost its case in the mediation, or that it needs to stir up the Chilean ghost--which was very useful at the end of 1978 when the Argentine economy was enduring difficult times--to divert the Argentines' attention from some very delicate domestic problems. But this, naturally, is a very dangerous and unhealthy game. To stir up nationalistic passions, to talk about Argentine defense against expansionist countries, to launch a campaign like the one which already exists in Argentina in the media will not contribute, of course, to better understanding. Such a campaign will not favor anybody's position in the Vatican mediation, nor will it keep the Chileans awake at night, since we have faith, complete faith, that an agreement will be reached that respects our position, which will be evaluated not only in light of the irrefutable geographical and

historical background, but also in light of the British Government verdict regarding the Beagle issue, when the British were chosen by Argentina itself as judge of this conflict. At that time Argentina chose to refuse the British verdict, which amazed the world. The latest belief is that they are perhaps paving the road for disregarding the pope's intervention also, an intervention which they themselves requested and appointed. These doubts will be made clear in the course of the week.

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

ANTIAIRCRAFT MACHINEGUN--Santiago, Chile, 6 Mar (LATIN)--The Chilean Air Force announced today that Chilean private industry has begun manufacturing a sophisticated antiaircraft machinegun of high precision, quick firepower and great mobility. The machinegun fires 1,000 rounds per minute, has two 20-millimeter barrels and can be used in antiaircraft operations and on ground targets. The machinegun was introduced by the Sociedad General de Comercio (SOGECO) 3 years ago and will be exhibited during the first Chilean aeronautics fair to be held between 22 and 30 March with the participation of 86 aeronautics manufacturers from 12 countries. [PY062159 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1620 GMT 6 Mar 80 PY]

ARMY REASSIGNMENTS--President Augusto Pinochet has decided on the following reassignments within the army: Gen Julio Fernandez Atienza, current president of the government junta advisory committee, has been appointed director of the armed forces recruitment and mobilization branch; Col Roberto Guillard Marinot, current director of the Army War Academy, has been appointed president of the government junta advisory committee; Lt Col Carlos Meirelles, current director of the Infantry School, has been appointed director of the Army War Academy; and Col Eduardo Ibanez Tilleria, current head of army operations, has been appointed director of the Infantry School. [PY131632 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0133 GMT 13 Mar 80 PY]

NEW PAKISTANI, GREEK ENVOYS--Syed Ahmed Pasha and Vasilios Vitsakis, Pakistani and Greek ambassadors, respectively, today presented their credentials to Foreign Relations Minister Hernan Cubillos. Both ambassadors will continue to reside in Buenos Aires, where they hold the same post. [PY121842 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Mar 80 PY]

CSO: 3010

FMC CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS REPORTED

Main Report by Vilma Espin

FL061400 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1929 GMT 5 Mar 80 FL

[Main report delivered by Vilma Espin, president of the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC) delivered at opening session of the Third FMC Congress held at Karl Marx Theater, Havana City--live]

[Excerpts] Dear comrades: In his brilliant speech closing the second congress of our organization, Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC, indicated to the Cuban women the need to make a tenacious and consistent effort in this phase of the revolution to achieve the full exercise of equality. Referring to adopted agreements, he pointed out: These resolutions constitute a real work program for this historic struggle, for this historic battle, for the fulfillment of this revolutionary duty, because our revolution will be judged in future years in accordance with the manner in which we resolve the problems of women in our society and fatherland, even though this is one of the revolution's problems requiring more tenacity, more firmness, more dedication and more effort.

Full of enthusiasm, with the extraordinary encouragement that our commander in chief's statements represented when he analyzed the work of women in those 14 years of unending work, with the pledge of not betraying his trust and aware of the magnitude of the importance of this battle, we have moved forward the phase that concludes today. The time elapsed since holding the second congress have been years of systematic work aimed at achieving this fundamental objective, requiring the efforts of our society as a unit.

In such a short period of time, it is impossible to make spectacular progress because it is a matter of eradicating customs and ideas that belong to the past and, at the same time, strengthening new beliefs. It is a matter of developing our economic base, making possible the solution of financial problems. As we begin our third congress new advances have become a reality. A greater deepening in the masses' awareness has been achieved and we are in a better condition to continue our work.

We now have the duty to report on the work accomplished during this phase, which has been rich in decisive events for the revolution's progress, the most important being the historic first party congress. This marked one of the high points in the life of our people. The resolution on the full exercise of women's equality adopted by the first party congress, together with the documents emanating from our organization's second congress, constitute for the FMC a true guiding light in the fulfillment of proposed objectives. In the application of the first party congress' principal agreements, such as the new politico-administrative division, the institutionalization, the economic development plan for the 5-year period, the new system of planning and management of the economy and others of similar importance, the organization has had an active participation, fulfilling all tasks assigned to it.

With the participation of the FMC members, with the great efforts of our leaders, the structures, methods and work assignments were adopted in accordance with these new requirements. In the juridical order, the proclamation of the socialist constitution marked an instance of particular significance for the revolution. With profound pride we can assert that our constitution, the family code, the childhood and youth code and all enacted laws assert the equality of all citizens and, particularly, between men and women, noting their duties in society and in the family as well as the strong and enlightening values established in this respect by the socialist morality.

Important international events have taken place in this period of time, among them the 11th World Youth and Students Festival and the Sixth Nonaligned Countries Movement Summit Conference, which had the enthusiastic support of the women in the midst of great rejoicing by our people for the high honor of hosting such events. Equally important were the proclamation of the International Women's Year and the International Year of the Child, which had the active support of the federation, making it possible for us to use international forums to explain what socialism means for women and children and to denounce the terrible situation in which they exist in countries under imperialist domination.

The participation of Cuban women in our people's internationalist cooperation during this period of time is specially significant. Their patriotic fervor and profound feelings of solidarity were clearly demonstrated in this activity when they assumed, next to their comrades, the combat assignments needed to contribute to the advance of fraternal peoples on the paths of development, justice and happiness.

In this report we will briefly recount the fundamental aspects of FMC work since holding the second congress and will critically examine the results. This will make it possible for the organization to continue to advance with renewed determination, fulfilling its duty of channeling the strength that women represent in the revolution's work.

[FL071330] We have arrived at the third congress with 2,362,559 FMC members grouped in 51,912 delegations and 10,381 blocs. This represents a 6-percent increase in membership over that at the second congress.

The fact that 80 percent of the female population over age 14 are affiliated with the organization demonstrates the gigantic mass of revolutionary women who are making their enthusiastic and unselfish contribution in numerous activities that represent a valuable contribution to the revolution's plans on all fronts.

A fundamental task developed in 1976 was adapting our structure to the new politicoadministrative division which meant changes in 60 percent of the blocs and in 15.8 percent of the delegations, abolishment of FMC regions, regrouping of municipalities and moving 11 percent of the FMC membership. Serious work to select and reassign the best cadres was done at the various levels.

The process to evaluate, elect and/or reelect officers was conducted in 1977 from the rank-and-file to the provincial levels. This helped us strengthen the intermediate levels through the election of new committees and gain the experience obtained from implementing the new structure and the work done since the second congress.

Once this process was completed, a broad program of seminars was undertaken from the National Directorate down to the grassroots for the purpose of training cadres along the guidelines derived from the politico-administrative division and implementation of new work methods.

As a result of the country's institutionalization, our party believed that the content of the work of each mass organization should be examined so that many of the administrative aspects, which up to that time we had to assume, could be assigned to the appropriate organizations. It is for this reason that at this time some of our tasks are being modified. Thus, the seamstress academies and the budget to pay their instructors, as well as the organization of sports activities and the Jaba Plan [groceries are placed in a "Jaba" or bag for later pickup by working women] are being assigned to the people's government.

In the same manner, the control of records of minors with behavioral problems has been assigned to the National Revolutionary Police.

It was decided that the FMC would be responsible for assistance to the Public Health Ministry's work in carrying out cancer tests and that, jointly with the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], the FMC should perform the educational work at the people's schools for parents.

The organization has given special attention over these years to the policy of selection, promotion, assignment, improvement and evaluation

of cadres by going deeper into their methods, experience, work record and qualities. Nevertheless, we have been faced with difficulties concerning stability, essentially at the municipal level, primarily as a result of illness or other personal problems, as well as other factors such as quality of the selection process and conditions of life and work.

In 1978, keeping in mind the changes made in the organizational structure, a new methodology based on the experience gained was drafted to maintain orderly data and evaluation of cadres with promotion potential. We call it "Table of Logical Promotions." With it we have begun systematic work to pay attention to the training of these comrades.

Greater stability has been attained now. However, it is necessary to continue increasing the degree of exigency in the selection process because the functions of the organization will be affected if the guiding principles of this policy are not followed.

A study was conducted this year on a scientific basis of all our cadres down to the municipal level for the purpose of increasing knowledge of their work, family and social problems.

Nationally, we have 340,376 activists who are making an effective contribution to the fulfillment of our tasks. They are a source of future cadres. However, sometimes we do not always find complete understanding at the rank-and-file organizations and leadership agencies regarding utilization of this movement whose possibilities sometimes are limited due to lack of systematic orientation and inspection of the activities they perform.

It is necessary to strengthen and expand activism at all levels. It is necessary to gain the participation of a greater number of women in the work of delegations. There are rank-and-file organizations where only a limited number of FMC members do all the work. These are overburdened unnecessarily and the fundamental aim of activism—which is the participation of the greatest number of women possible in the work of delegations—is not achieved.

For example, in many cases we see that the history activist directs the friendship brigade and belongs to the agitation and propaganda group, or that the finance activist is reporter and instructor at the study club, while numerous FMC members have no responsibilities.

The results of our work should also be measured by the number of women who work at the rank-and-file organizations.

Furthermore, the variety of positions in the federation or with the other mass organizations has a negative influence on operations. And we must keep in mind that there are scores of housewives who can perform

thoroughly any task they are assigned. It is therefore a fundamental objective to mobilize them, see that they participate and show them they can contribute to necessary activities of the organization. Housewives represent the largest percentage of our membership and their political and ideological development is an essential aim of our work.

[FL071335] Over these years, every 6 months we held national plans review meetings, made inspection and assistance visits, visited cadres at all levels and held seminars, area meetings and national plenums. These have been for the purpose of exercising collective leadership and demanding individual responsibility, as well as exercising better control by applying the necessary measures to eliminate deficiencies and gain experience.

The practice of democratic centralism and the exercise of criticism and self-criticism have been important factors for the correct operation of leadership organizations and for the training of cadres at all levels; and it has been necessary to concentrate increasingly more on their consistent application.

Reports on all the tasks undertaken are rendered periodically. However, we have not devised an adequate system which, while serving as an effective tool for the direction of work, does not overburden cadres with its complexity. A single system to inform the rank-and-file is currently being drafted. It will cover the fundamental aspects necessary to evaluate work in the simplest manner possible. Likewise, the forms established for leadership organizations at the various levels will be reduced.

Regulations were published and implemented to regulate the functions of the national, provincial and municipal committees and of the delegations and blocs. Once some time has elapsed in their practical application, we will be prepared to evaluate the effectiveness of these regulations.

Constant work has been done to improve the work of committees at various levels, substantially improving the participation of nonprofessional members who, with the support of auxiliary apparatuses, have taken care of the rank-and-file organizations and agencies on a regular basis. However, we believe it is necessary to give them our assistance even more. It is necessary to expand links with the rank-and-file even more and maintain better orientation and control of tasks so that deficiencies can be noted in time and actions can be taken to eliminate them.

We must continue to make every effort to improve increasingly more the plenums of committees and meetings of secretariats, since through them guidelines are channeled, all aspects of our work are discussed and pertinent agreements are reached to work toward the proposed objectives.

Regardless of the advances made in the internal operation of blocs and delegations, the result is not satisfactory. We believe that many times the necessary quality in the preparation and conduct of meetings is not achieved. Correct preparation of the agenda is imperative and should lead to a balanced examination of the topics to be discussed.

There are difficulties in the operation of many blocs and delegations, particularly in several provincial capitals where meetings are held irregularly with low quality and very little attendance by members as a result of a lack of guidelines and preparation, incorrect meeting announcements and other factors. There still are blocs that do not operate correctly, do not hold periodic meetings in the established manner and only address the delegations to ask about specific activities without doing systematic work in the activities.

The bloc is a link of special importance. Its function is to direct, guide and control the work of delegations. It is therefore necessary that municipal committees and their auxiliary apparatuses pay greater attention to the blocs and delegations that have difficulties.

We cannot be satisfied with fulfilling the minimum parameters established for operations while there are a number of organizations with deficiencies. It is necessary to continue to work so that the last bloc and the last delegation complete their tasks fully.

The monthly meeting is the delegation's most important activity because it is the means of most direct communication with the rank-and-file and helps to obtain the initiatives, opinions and experiences of the FMC members, guide them opportunely, make in-depth analysis of problems and difficulties, offer information on different problems and get participation in the tasks of the revolution.

It is necessary to increase the FMC members' interest in their meetings and enhance the latter's content by in-depth analysis of problems in the organization's work and complete concern about situations being experienced in the community, be they in the schools, services to the population, quality of articles offered [for sale] or other matters of interest that should be forwarded to higher echelons. Through these meetings, we can learn of concerns and suggestions raised by the membership and, at the same time, issue guidelines that will help members maintain a militant attitude in confronting (?slander) and deviations in the constant ideological battle.

Nationally, each province is fulfilling operation indicators. But we should keep in mind that the objective of the federation is that all delegations and blocs work adequately and that the largest number of members possible attend activities and meetings. In cases where this is not so, it is principally because there are deficiencies in the orientation and control of these activities. We ourselves should point this out at the leadership organizations down to the municipal level.

[FL071345] It is true that many times all the resources do not exist. It is true that many municipalities are large. This requires that we be better organized and more demanding. Our members are enthusiastic and responsible. At all times they have shown their willingness to work, their interest and dedication. This is demonstrated by the extraordinary work done by thousands of delegations in almost 20 years of constant activity. It is for this reason that wherever delegations and blocs do not operate well and their secretariats are doing deficient work, we must reinforce the orientation and inspection of the work they are doing and apply greater systematization with them.

In 1979, an average of 90 percent of the delegations held monthly meetings with a 64-percent membership attendance. We consider this a positive result.

However, this implies that nationally there still are 5,287 delegations that do not meet periodically and 788,744 FMC members that do not attend meetings. We recognize the effort being made by cadres from delegations to higher echelons to obtain higher rates in this regard.

Referring to rank-and-file organizations, we cannot overlook mentioning the work done by FMC delegations overseas. Their work represents effective support for the work done by our diplomatic missions while, at the same time, helping to expand the ties of friendship that bind us to progressive and revolutionary women's movements throughout the world and to disseminate the work of the Cuban revolution.

The process to prepare for our third congress has been carried out with real quality through meetings to evaluate, elect and/or reelect officers held at the delegations down to the provincial level. They have helped strengthen leadership organizations at all levels with the election of comrades with the best qualifications, experience and potential for the various responsibilities.

These meetings were held at all the delegations with 79 percent of the members participating, at all the blocs, with 88-percent attendance and, lastly, at all municipalities and provinces with 95-percent and 98.7-percent participation, respectively.

Sixty-four percent of the leaders of delegations were ratified in their posts. In the blocs, it was 64 percent; in municipalities, 60 percent; and in provinces, 56 percent. The rest were reelected at the various levels thereby showing greater stability.

The discussion of draft bylaws and theses for the third congress was conducted at the delegations and leadership committees beginning in October with the active participation of most FMC members. This process helped to gather opinions and suggestions on topics of great importance. These included the functions of rank-and-file organizations, ideological

work aimed at women and new generations, use of the movement of combatant mothers for education at intermediate-level schools, employment of women, and their willingness to participate actively in the battle against sloppy work, negligence in services and everything that may represent an obstacle to the development of the revolution's plans.

Special mention is deserved in this report to the work done to raise funds to defray expenses of the third congress. The work spirit, creative initiative and enthusiasm of FMC cadres and members once again have been demonstrated. All our forces went into action from one corner of the country to the other, within the established standards. This made it possible to raise 3,584,700 million pesos. We therefore congratulate warmly all the comrades as well as the mass organizations and government agencies that contributed. [applause]

One of the principal duties fulfilled by the FMC members over these years of intense work has been payment of dues, a fundamental tool for political work because while they represent the principal source of income, they are a link with FMC members due to the responsibility that each member has to help pay the organization's expenses.

[FL071350] With exemplary discipline, thousands of activists collect quarterly dues going even to the hardest to find places. In the past 5-year period, financing has increased from the 90.5 percent achieved in 1974 to the 94.6 percent reached in 1979. However, we have had difficulties in fulfilling the collection and settlement timetable in some provinces as a result of deficiencies in organizing this work. The consequence of this is that the time of dues collection becomes the main activity of all cadres. Therefore, we must continue to work to fulfill the methodology that has been established.

As we have seen, income has increased but it does not cover the federation's expenses because of the resources required to implement various aspects of work plans and apply the wage scale to our cadres.

The federation always has maintained a policy of austerity aimed at a maximum reduction of expenditures for the purpose of raising financing indexes. In this regard and in order to fulfill one of the agreements of the eighth plenum of the party Central Committee, we are working on the guidelines of a plan that will help us cover financial needs to a great degree so that we can become self-financing.

Cultural development of women is a fundamental objective of the FMC. Jointly with the Education Ministry, we have continued to work systematically to raise the cultural level of housewives in urban as well as rural areas. When the labor movement proposed the battle for a sixth-grade education [of workers] in the 1976-80 5-year period, we intensified our efforts to insure that housewives participate effectively in this important project. To this end, in the early months of the past

year, we brought up to date the census on the educational level of FMC members. It showed that there were 129,598 housewives qualified but not involved in studies. We then proceeded to give tests throughout the country to determine educational levels in order to have more exact information of the level of schooling of these comrades and their real potential for and willingness to study.

This work was completed successfully since 101,576 comrades took the tests. They have helped us to establish incorporation goals more objectively and to undertake correct assignment and opening of classrooms and circles for review studies.

Nevertheless, we encountered difficulties such as areas where the tests were not given because of poor planning, lack of transportation, housewives with personal problems of illness, comrades who did not agree to take the test, and so forth. For these reasons, work still is being done on a makeup plan in five provinces in order to give the test to a larger number of women.

[FL071400] During the 5-year period 162,141 housewives graduated from sixth grade. Some 54,325 housewives have registered in the first 6 months of the current school term at various levels of worker-peasant education. During this period the number of women registered in sixth grade increased with an average registration of 83,000 housewives since 1974. This number has gradually diminished since the 1977-1978 school term due to the cultural level achieved by FMC members and the impossibility of providing classrooms for a population scattered over large areas where there are different levels of education.

With respect to the education of our leaders, outstanding progress has been made in recent years. Proof of this is that in 1975 some 768 cadres from all levels of leadership were attending classes in university schools while today 3,463 are studying. Some 7,051 have graduated from this level. It is necessary to note that many comrades, mostly in municipalities, are unable to continue to attend school because the courses of study corresponding to their levels do not exist in their areas.

Now our goals are higher. We are making every effort to make it possible for comrades to continue studying until they achieve a 9th grade education. At the same time the struggle to eliminate levels lower than sixth grade for housewives, continues, which is why we must direct our work toward increasing the number of study circles. In recent years we have also recruited a large number of housewives to register in peasants and workers secondary schools, workers and peasants faculty, language courses of study, schools for administrative courses and others. Despite the gains there are still deficiencies at the rank-and-file level, such as lack of adequate training, difficulties in assigning teachers, outdated records of housewives' educational levels, lack of space for classrooms and insufficient technical assistance for study circles.

In 1977, following the review of our efforts, it was agreed that the fundamental responsibility of the federation would be to support the development of mass practice of sports, to encourage women's participation, to recruit activists and to disseminate information on the benefits derived from sports, while the sports organs of the people's would be charged with the organization and supervision of the gymnastics clubs and other activities. One of the first tasks conducted by the federation since its founding was to create the seamstress academies, which have been successfully operated in both urban and rural areas. In addition to offering a useful skill, the academies have contributed valuable services by sponsoring child-care centers, organizing circles of interest at various levels of education as well as various other activities, among them exhibits of FMC projects, contests of arts and crafts and festivals of the dolls. During this period of time 336,785 comrades registered in the academies and 266,335 graduated, 79 percent of those registered. The remaining 21 percent is due to incorporation of academies, recruitment of comrades into production and implementation of payment of a small quota in the 1976-1977 school term in accordance with the country's economic policy.

[FL071410] These organizational and economic measures led to a drop in registration, even though the yearly average has been more than 56,000 students. We must stress that in these past years the organization's efforts have been maintained in all specialties, such as sewing, embroidery, fabrics, arts and crafts, ceramics and training in fashion designing for graduates. Hundreds of thousands of women have gained skills to manufacture high-quality goods, which was demonstrated by the work done for the 11th World Youth and Students Festival. More than 10,300 items were delivered to the people's government organs for sale, bringing a profit of more than 50,000 pesos to the FMC.

Starting now our organization's task is to continue to register women in the seamstress academies to take these courses of study which have been so useful. Ideological training of FMC cadres and members is an objective of great importance, which is why throughout all these years we have conducted a continued effort of political education. One of the principal means used in this effort have been the study circles, jointly with the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] and the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP] as well as those specific FMC circles. Through the specific FMC circles topics of interest for women have been covered in many lectures, with an average attendance of 65 percent. The topics on historic materialism prepared in easy and understandable language have been correctly understood and highly valued by the FMC masses, awakening their interest in deepening their ideological training.

The joint clubs have been held since 1976 and their organization has been systematized through close coordination with the CDR and the ANAP. In some instances, some difficulties have arisen due to delay in

receiving materials because of printing or distribution problems as well as new documents which had to be added to an already approved schedule because of their extraordinary importance. On another subject, even though the organizational measures governing these clubs have been established, there are some difficulties caused by the different structures of each mass organization, which forces us to pay great attention to the fulfillment of the established methodology, reinforcing the joint work with the CDR and ANAP.

Today we have a strong movement of FMC instructors who are responsible for the management of the study circles. These key activists attend seminars up to the bloc level which train them for their important work. Some meetings have been held by these instructors resulting in fruitful exchanges of views and suggestions. It is necessary to achieve still greater quality in these seminars, ascertaining attendance of the instructors, mainly those from areas and blocs, because to a large degree the quality of the study circle depends on the training of these comrades. Their work cannot be limited to merely reading the material but must serve as a gauge of their essential aspects, encouraging the FMC members to contribute their views, experiences and clearing up any doubts that might come up.

If we examine objectively the development of the ideological study circles, it is evident that in many instances this takes place without fully achieving its goal. It is essential to intensify our work so that these circles are conducted with increasingly greater quality. In addition, the conditions to which we referred when we talked about the operation of the delegation can be applied in this case as long as attendance rates are fulfilled by the study circles. However, nationally 16 percent of the units do not fulfill them and 35 percent of the FMC members do not participate. We sometimes do not make every effort to attain the largest possible attendance. It is a priority responsibility to mobilize women to participate in the joint and specific circles.

Since 1976 all educational efforts are directed at the teaching of Marxism-Leninism, having ended all school terms with satisfactory results in promotions and registration. Until 1979 we had applied the programs corresponding to the party's basic and intermediate levels, with one intermediate and two basic courses of study taught in Havana annually and two basic in Santiago de Cuba. Last year, together with the party, we examined the broad possibilities that its provincial schools offered our cadres to raise their ideological level in their own areas of residence. We decided that the FMC need not maintain basic courses of study, attaining in this manner a better use of material and human resources and devoting all our efforts to strengthening the national school.

Since 1976 and until 1979 the Tamara Bunke School graduated 197 students from the provinces of Santiago de Cuba, Granma, Guantanamo, Las Tunas, Holguín, Ciego de Avila and Camaguey. Excellent work was done until it

was closed. Only 32 percent of our leaders have attended political training schools, which is well below our needs. It is essential to increase the participation of the best cadres in these courses of study, which contribute to improving their formation. In some instances comrades who do not have potential are sent to school, comrades for whom it is difficult to assimilate the training. On the other hand, sometimes not all vacancies in the classrooms are filled, not utilizing the available capacity.

[FL082139] We find the functioning of our national cadres school satisfactory and it is a standing objective of our organization to increasingly strengthen it so it will turn into a model institution of Marxist-Leninist education. Other avenues that will make it easier for outstanding FMC members and cadres in blocs and delegations to intensify their political studies are the party's political-ideological education centers operating in the country's municipalities and which some comrades of the rank-and-file organizations have attended.

With a view to the ideological excelling of women, many activities in revolutionary propaganda have been carried out with the aim of propagating scientific and materialistic concepts. Our propaganda work has contributed to the mobilization of women for a number of activities and to an increased awareness of what are the fundamental aspects of the revolution's objectives. To accomplish our work, all the mass communications media have been used although we believe that we have not made full use of them.

We must be more agile, implement new initiatives, achieve more effective coordination in keeping with the particular characteristics of each medium so that they can truly reflect the organization's work and be a real support for the achievement of our short- and long-range objectives. We must also intensify our efforts to make propaganda campaigns more viable and adequate in such a way that clear and specific guidelines will reach the rank and file concerning the tasks that they might undertake. It is also necessary to train and make more specialized the cadres in charge of the task, making clear the objectives to be attained and the means to be used in each instance.

The federation's propaganda work has helped create new traditions and celebrate with enthusiasm some occasions such as 23 August, the anniversary of the FMC Constitution (establishment) and 8 March, International Women's Day, to make them important events for our women's movement.

In revolutionary propaganda, our 41,891 groups of agitation and propaganda, comprising 221,780 FMC members, are basic tools. It would take forever to tell about the many visits, meetings, posters, impromptu gatherings, murals restorations, and other tasks and initiatives put into practice during this period [by these groups]. However, we should be able to use them more fully, and for this purpose we must give them

more specific guidelines and prepare them better so they may fulfill their goals. We must keep in mind the great effectiveness of direct propaganda.

The work accomplished by the provinces in the Third FMC Congress campaign has been outstanding. Propaganda workshops have been successfully set up in many places. These contributed to increase the propagation of various aspects. We must study this experience in the future since it could result in something very valuable.

[FL082145] The voluntary correspondents movement has been made stronger to carry out a large-scale activity throughout the country. Currently we have 580 comrades who have received some training but it is necessary to train them even more and use their best work more extensively.

The large number of girls who begin sexual relations at a very young age continues to be of high concern to us. They go into marriage without having reached the proper level of responsibility. They reach motherhood with little sense of what it means so far as it might affect them physically and psychologically and lacking the necessary maturity to educate their children. It is necessary that we intensify our efforts so that parents, teachers and youngsters themselves have the necessary information on these matters which must be weighed as part of the integral development of our children so that they can assume the role each youngster, man or woman should play in our socialist society.

Regarding the federation's work in support of the revolutionary armed forces over this period [since the second congress], we have been collaborating with the patriotic-military [education] group since 1975. We have provided social workers and necessary support groups to the pre-recruit training centers. We have participated in the educational work undertaken with youths and relatives, especially those who have discipline problems. We have encouraged the best students at parents meetings, emulation checkup meetings and other activities.

An important aspect of the federation's educational work has been the effort of social workers in the community which is a valuable contribution to crime prevention work that begins with the activity of combatant mothers in schools. At times, the environment around a child or youngster, especially his family, is not the appropriate atmosphere for his growth and development in accordance with the principles of a socialist society. It is precisely at the unfavorable social atmosphere where the social worker should begin her action. It is necessary to stress the valuable experience and important results obtained that have demonstrated the great unselfishness and deep humanity of these workers.

We must emphasize that the participation of the 12,754 social workers, particularly the specialists who have graduated from our Frank Pais Social Worker School that operated from 1972 to 1978, has been very effective in all this work and all other social tasks.

Our organization has made systematic efforts to improve and intensify the social work we do in coordination with the Interior Ministry. The nature and purpose of this work is eminently preventive. This same objective is the aim of activities we carry out with the office of the attorney general of the republic. The essential purpose is to give the female population the necessary knowledge of socialist law so that every FMC member is a faithful adherent and defender of the laws enacted to benefit the rights of all the people.

The work of our health brigades in support of the maternal-infant care program can be expressed, among other results, in the reduction of the mortality rate. It should be stressed that in the first 9 months of 1979, the infant mortality rate was reduced to 19.4 per 1,000 live births in the first year of life.

The contribution of FMC members to the national economy through volunteer work in agriculture, industry and services also has been valuable. The members have participated actively in tasks of the sugar harvest, joining the collective effort for greater quality and higher production. In the same manner, they have worked in coffee and tobacco harvests, guaranteeing fulfillment of proposed goals with the responsibility and enthusiasm that characterize the work of FMC members.

[FL082150] In recent years the organization of volunteer work drives has been improved. A serious effort was made to fulfill the guidelines emanating from the 13th and 14th congresses of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers.

The creation of the 1979 detachments honoring the Third FMC Congress must be noted. They enthusiastically contributed to various agricultural tasks in honor of the congress, demonstrating their revolutionary awareness. The revolutionary state has made great efforts to provide the working women with social services as well as the support of social institutions in domestic work and care of their children. Child care centers and kindergartens reported an increased registration from 56,700 in 1974 to 90,100 in 1979. More than half a million youths have been given scholarships in intermediate level education, and 280,000 benefit from semi-boarding schools.

The struggle for the participation of women in the country's political and administrative leadership has been a constant objective in all our efforts. We believe that prejudices still prevail among our people with respect to women. An example of these prejudices are the results of the elections for district delegates. The number of women elected was well below that of 1976.

The federation must intensify the ideological work to attain a greater number of comrades elected to the people's government organs. In many cases the women themselves sort of limit their possibilities and in others

subjective factors influence the voters. Men are elected in the belief that they have fewer limitations. It is not a case of electing women just because they are women, it is a matter of electing comrades who have the necessary qualifications. In this sense our organization must intensify its efforts with other political and mass organizations to achieve a greater participation of women in state leadership.

During the period of time we are examining, our organization participated in 30 international events which made it possible for us to broaden and intensify our relations with a large number of women's organizations from all parts of the world. Two significant events were Cuba's participation in the World Conference on the International Women's Year held in Mexico, sponsored by the United Nations, and in Berlin's world congress, convoked by the Women's International Democratic Federation and other revolutionary and progressive organizations.

As an important aspect of our cooperation plans with women's organizations in Latin America, Asia and Africa, we must point out the possibilities we offer to their cadres to attend political studies in our Fe del Valle School. To date 174 of those comrades have graduated from our school. In Angola we gave our contribution to that fraternal country's Central Women's Organization in cadres to help coordinate their efforts as well as in material resources. We also sent a delegation to help Mozambique organize its women's cadres. This has been done in Congo, Ethiopia and any other country which asked for our help.

We will continue to work resolutely to attain higher levels of development in our society. Today, with the same firmness of always, we reiterate to Fidel, our beloved commander in chief, [applause] the Cuban women's confidence in him and the determination to follow loyally the orders of the party which, under his brilliant leadership, leads our people on the path toward the most beautiful future. Inspired by his extraordinary example, by the glorious traditions of struggle of our people and by the Marxist-Leninist ideology, we will maintain very high the triumphant combat flags which have guided us during the past 20 years of victories, determined to defend at whatever price necessary the gains of our socialist revolution. Fatherland or death, we shall win! [prolonged applause and shouts of "Venceremos"]

Last Day of Sessions

FL081915 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The last day of sessions of the third congress of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] coincides with the anniversary of International Women's Day. This morning's session was chaired by PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Jorge Risquet and Vilma Espin, member of the PCC Central Committee and FMC president.

During the first part of this morning's session, the delegates from Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Colombia, Guyana, Portugal, the Dominican Republic, the GDR, the FRG, Romania, Western Sahara, Sao Tome and Principe, Sweden, Uruguay and the Soviet Union made speeches to convey their country's greetings. The speeches were characterized by their anti-imperialist combativeness, militant solidarity with the people's struggle for national liberation and support for a just peace in the world.

Immediately afterward, the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] held a ceremony in honor of the congress participants which was marked by the martial demonstrations of the participants, colorfulness and uniformity. The FAR message of greetings to the Third FMC Congress was read by Col Ruben Interian. The document states that the FAR conveys fraternal, warm and solidary greetings to the congress from the generals, admirals, officers, warrant officers, sergeants, soldiers, navy personnel and civilian workers. It notes that the congress is being held in the year of the second party congress and 20th anniversary of the women's organization and that it constitutes a new and firm step forward in the battle for the women's full equality.

In closing the message states: [begin Colonel Interian recording] We take the advantage of this opportunity to convey our greetings through the delegations to the millions of women who, throughout the world, struggle for freedom, peace, detente and friendship among peoples. We, as members of the revolution's armed forces which have a large number of women in their ranks, wish to ratify that we will continue to raise the levels of combat and mobilization readiness and that we will achieve better results in operational, combat and political training to defend, together with you, the gains attained by our people. [end recording]

CSO: 3010

PROVINCES REPORT SUGAR HARVEST PROGRESS

Matanzas Sugar Harvest

FL071739 Matanzas Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] Grinding well with fresh sugarcane and with the highest efficiency is our watchword for the month of March in accordance with the sugar industry's agro-industrial plan, Julian Rizo Alvarez, first party secretary in Matanzas Province and member of the PCC Central Committee, stated in his closing remarks at the meeting held in this city to examine the harvest progress. During the agro-industrial meeting the participants agreed that after 105 days of grinding it is necessary to raise the grinding levels up to 90 percent or more of the mills' capabilities and process to the last cut cane with the highest efficiency. He added that some 10,000 workers will gradually join in cane agriculture tasks and, within this mobilizing movement, it is required that all harvest tasks be guaranteed. Referring to the mobilization efforts, Rizo stressed the need for conducting it with the most efficient organization.

Granma Sugar Harvest

FL081523 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Working together with the Council of State president, a group of deputies made up of Jorge Lezcano, member of the PCC Central Committee, and Antonio Esquivel, both ministers of the government [as heard], are conducting an examination of the progress of the sugar harvest in Granma Province. In a visit to the Ranulfo Leyva Sugar Mill in Yara, Lezcano and Roberto Damian Alfonso, first party secretary in the province, ascertained that the mill will fulfill its production plan. For its part, the enterprise supplying sugarcane to the unit is confronting difficulties in delivering the raw material due to low productivity of the canecutters, inability to complete the workers' roster and breakdowns of the harvesters. The government minister called for adopting the measures needed to reduce the time elapsed between the cutting and grinding, because 48 hours is excessive, cuts down the yield and affects the process of production.

Camaguey Harvest Meeting

FL081523 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL

[Text] In Camaguey, the Vertientes workers' central task during the next Giron drive will be to produce the 83,000 metric tons of sugar needed to complete the production plan of the giant Panama Sugar Mill. All tasks related to the current sugar harvest and other agricultural tasks will be the focus of attention of the Cuban labor movement in coming months, Roberto Veiga, member of the PCC Central Committee and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers, has announced in his closing remarks at a meeting to assess the behavior of permanent canecutters as well as to evaluate the efforts of the five eastern provinces during the last 10 days of the current harvest. Veiga stressed that during the decisive phase of the harvest the workers throughout the country will have to redouble their efforts to respond honorably to the appeal made by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro on the need to take advantage of the high yields of the sugarcane and raise the level of agroindustrial efficiency. The spirit that we must instill in all workers participating in our fundamental economic battle, Veiga underscored, is that the workday does not end until the daily grinding norm is fulfilled.

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

IRAQI MINISTER--'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Majid, minister of education of the Republic of Iraq, and the delegation he heads have arrived in the Isle of Youth accompanied by Jorge Gonzalez, Cuban vice minister of education. They were received at the airport of that municipality by Armando Manresa, first secretary of the municipal party committee, and Roberto Ogando, president of the People's Government Municipal Assembly. After its arrival in the city of Nueva Gerona, the delegation visited the Modelo Prison National Museum where it was briefed on the imprisonment of the attackers on the Moncada Barracks and revolutionaries in that prison. During its stay in that special municipality, the Iraqi delegation will visit the 14 June Basic Rural Secondary School, the first of a new type of school inaugurated by Fidel, and the Agostinho Neto School for Angolan students. [Text] [FL071938 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1909 GMT 7 Mar 80 FL]

MININT BORDER GUARDS--The 17th founding anniversary of the border guards of the Interior Ministry was commemorated in a ceremony held at the headquarters of that branch of the armed forces. Chairing the event was Col Amado Valdes and other members of the guards' leadership council. Numerous members of the troops received awards during the ceremony. A group of officers, sergeants and soldiers of the border guards received the 15-year certificate, and founding members of the police force were presented the 20th revolutionary national police anniversary button. The members of the Presidium also presented prizes and honorable mentions to the Pioneers who won the "My Greetings to the Border Guards" literary and drawing contest, sponsored by the political section of the border guards directorate. In his closing remarks Col Amado Valdes noted the important mission that the border guard combatants fulfill, and stressed: During this year we have guarded the fruits of the people's sacrifices and creative work. We have, are and will always be loyal and zealous guardians of the fatherland. [Text] [FL081217 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL]

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION--A delegation of Nicaragua's Agricultural Workers Association--ATC--headed by its secretary general, Francisco Lopez, has visited the Arturo Suarez Livestock-Agricultural Cooperative in Jovellanos

and some tourist centers. The visitors, who were accompanied by Orlando Barrios, vice president of the National Association of Small Farmers, were received at the cooperative by its president, Luis Mateo, and other members of the governing board. [Text] [FL081523 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL]

GRENADA REVOLUTIONARY TRIUMPH--At the Antonio Briones Montoto School of the University of Havana preparatory faculty, a ceremony was held to commemorate the revolutionary triumph in Grenada. (Raisa Jordan), on behalf of the university leadership, hailed the victory of the Grenadan people over the fascist government of Eric Gairy and reiterated the Cuban people's solidarity with that fraternal country. Grenadan Ambassador to Cuba (Richard Jacob) expressed gratitude for the demonstrations of solidarity and ratified the friendship felt by his people for revolutionary Cuba. [Text] [FL081926 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL]

OUTGOING COLOMBIAN ENVOY--Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State, has received Colombian Ambassador Clara Nieto de Ponce de Leon who is bidding farewell to Cuban officials upon conclusion of her diplomatic mission in Cuba. Their talk was held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere in keeping with existing relations between the two countries. Mrs Ponce de Leon also bade farewell to Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos. For his part, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca hosted a farewell dinner in honor of the ambassador. [FL101120 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Mar 80 FL]

NEW NICARAGUAN ENVOY--Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has received Dr Manuel Andara Ubeda who presented the credentials that accredit him ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Nicaragua in our country. [Text] [FL101120 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3010

ECUADOR

FERAUD SAYS 'PROFESSIONAL POLITICIANS' PLOTTING COUP

PA082041 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 8 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] Government Minister Carlos Feraud Blum recently spoke to newsmen on political matters. He denied that the government is using a single cent of the budget in popular mobilizations and campaigns to promote the development plan. These are spontaneous expressions of support for the policies of the chief executive, the minister stressed.

When asked about the politicians who are promoting coupist plans at night, the minister said:

[Begin recording] [Feraud] I am following their steps so that I can lay my hands on them the moment I think it is advisable, if no dialog is possible. These are professional politicians and conspirators. They are 30 or 40 people who amuse themselves at night with these things. Therefore, we must let them go on.

[Question] [Words indistinct] reveal their names. [Words indistinct]

[Answer] I do not think so. However, you know who they are. You know. [Indistinct words interjected by unidentified speaker] I said followers of the latest or previous dictatorships who yearn for power. They were at the service of the dictatorship until a few months ago. Therefore, [word indistinct] how they are going by themselves. You know them perfectly well.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] We are giving them too much advance warning and it would be quite advisable that they go on with their...[Feraud does not finish sentence]
[End recording]

Manuel Araujo Hidalgo, former cabinet minister and leader of the Velasquista movement, showed in a way that he felt the government minister's statements alluded to him. I do not know to whom the minister is referring, he said, but we, the citizens, are perfectly entitled under the constitution and the laws to meet and freely analyze the serious political situation the country is enduring.

In Araujo's opinion, the destabilization of the system is being propitiated at the government's higher echelons instead.

[Begin recording] [Araujo] I have read in the press the minister's statement that politicians are holding all-night meetings. Actually, I do not know to whom the minister is referring ecause, in a democratic and constitutional regime, all citizens are perfectly entitled to meet under the constitution, the same way we met with the government minister himself on that memorable night at the Channel 4 [television station]. He and three politicians, including myself, were present there. I do not know if the minister is referring to that meeting.

And I am surprised that the government minister, who is a very distinguished person...[Araujo leaves thought unfinished]. I personally have the best opinion of Minister Feraud and I notice that he is using a language we heard only during the era of the dictatorship.

[Question] Do you really think coup plans are being promoted during these all-night meetings?

[Answer] I sincerely do not think so. From what I know, political meetings are being held to analyze the serious political situation the country is enduring, which is known to all Ecuadoreans. All of us are concerned about one thing: We want the democratic and constitutional regime to be strengthened. It is being destabilized at the highest echelons of the government branches and, more specifically, by the dispute between the executive and legislative branches. Rather, I think that a coup may occur in the country in the future if the state branches do not take the problem of democracy and constitutionality seriously. [End recording]

CSO: 3010

GOVERNMENT BID FOR POLITICAL DIALOG HTTS SNAG

PID Misses Appointment

PA080435 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 7 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] The permanent political dialog proposed by Government Minister Carlos Feraud Blum for the defense of democracy seemed to be momentarily shaken after the Left Democratic Party [PID]--his next guest in a line--failed to keep its appointment.

The minister blamed a failure in communication for the absence. Nevertheless, it was learned in political circles that there is a strong current of opposition to the talks with the executive branch inside the PID, which thwarted a formal understanding in early December 1979.

Feraud said the government has stretched out its hand to the Ecuadorean parties. Whether they come or not is a matter to be analyzed later, he said. He mentioned the participation of several political sectors as the best indication that the response has been favorable.

The first signs of opposition to the dialog with the government of President Jaime Roldos have dashed the government's hopes of establishing eagerly-sought ties of communication with the legislature. However, Feraud said the process will continue without hesitation.

PID Opposes Talks

PA080440 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 7 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The national director of the Democratic left, Raul Vaca Carbo, made several comments on the failure of the meeting with Minister Feraud. He also revealed his party's position regarding the policies of the regime.

[Begin recording] The Democratic left did not go today to the talks publicly announced by the government minister because we did not receive an invitation to the dialog. We believe that there was a failure, to say the least, in the secretariat, on this government matter. In the first place it was

publicly said that the Democratic left would attend the meeting and in the second place it was said that the interviews were scheduled according to the date of the requests. However, we have not requested any interview. In the third place the government minister told the people that many parties were requesting interviews with the government. We have not. Therefore we did not see any reason to attend a meeting today that we had to learn about through the press and not through any formal invitation by the ministry.

Also the nature of the meeting did not please us either. It was said that the dialog was to create a congressional majority but we do not believe we should talk with the government because it does not [words indistinct] seat in congress. Until it proves that it has it, there is no sense in speaking with it.

We do not believe that a congressional majority should be organized as a bloc. We believe that majorities, for the purpose of discussing problems, should have diverging opinions unless there is a consensus regarding a specific problem in congress to change what must be changed. At any rate, this did not justify the dialog with the government.

On the other hand, the government said that this dialog is trying to consolidate democracy in Ecuador. In this respect the Democratic left has constantly tried to consolidate democracy in the country, as everyone knows. As long as there are no specific proposals from the ministry we did not see the dialog as necessary to do something we have been faithfully doing since the beginning of democracy in the country.

Today we received a telephone call from the minister expressing his desire to hold talks with the Democratic left. We have asked him to define the points which will be discussed in order to allow the party to analyze the proposal made by the government and to decide on its position during the talks. [End recording]

CSO: 3010

ECUADOR

BRIEFS

LAND DEEDS TO PEASANTS--President Jaime Roldos will deliver land deeds on more than 20,000 hectares to 827 peasant families from Azuay and Canar provinces on 14 March in Cuenca. Antonio Andrade, agriculture and livestock minister; Ricardo Moreno Cornejo, Ecuadorean Agrarian Reform Institute director; and Marcelo Quevedo Toro, development bank general manager, are going to be present. [Text] [PA111314 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA]

CS0: 3010

EL SALVADOR

UNIVERSITY RECTOR CRITICIZES RECENT GOVERNMENT REFORMS

PA130147 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2027 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Report by Mauro Espinoza Fernandez]

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The reforms decreed last week by the revolutionary government junta of El Salvador are a "completely U.S. project" which seeks to "annul popular resistance," Jesuit priest Ignacio Ellacuria, rector of the Central American Jose Simeon Canas University, has said here. Ellacuria said a new coup attempt by the Salvadoran oligarchy can be expected and predicted that there would be "some 3,000 or 4,000 deaths" by the end of the year in this Central American country.

Ellacuria accused the present Salvadoran junta of being a "more repressive regime" than that of Gen Carlos Humberto Romero, who was overthrown on 15 October by the Salvadoran armed forces. The Jesuit told ACAN-EFE there is no possibility of "an armed response by the oligarchy" to the decrees by which the governing junta nationalized private banking in El Salvador and established an agrarian reform program. "An armed confrontation with the government would not be to the oligarchy's advantage," he added. He added that rightist sectors are taking some time to react to the actions of the government, but that a reply should be expected.

"It is possible that another coup is being prepared for a later date," he said, referring to an abortive rightist coup which reportedly had been planned for late February.

Ellacuria said the junta's inability to combat the "coalescence of forces which oppose the reformist plan," as noted by Hector Dada Hirezi in his letter [of resignation from the junta] is obvious, since those implicated in the alleged rightist coup have not been punished.

He added that the present regime is guilty of many political assassinations, to an even greater extent than what occurred during the previous government of Romero or that of his predecessor, Col Arturo Armando Molina.

Ellacuria described the recently announced union of leftist groups in a "revolutionary coordinating board of the masses" as an "encouraging advance" by the left in overcoming sectarianism and dogmatism.

"There continue to be differences among those groups. However, an attempt is being made to overcome them and this is not an easy task. The leftist groups are demonstrating great political maturity," the Jesuit added. He said this joint effort is a "dynamic effort which must advance."

Ellacuria said a mediation attempt would be possible to bring about a dialog between the leftists and the government, but this would require a decision as to which part of the government is to be addressed. "The government has not one, but two or three parts," he said.

Ellacuria announced, without giving details, that a political group of independent professors and technicians would be formed. He also said the thesis that there are only two alternative solutions to the present political crisis in El Salvador is false. "The alternatives are neither a 'Pinochetazo' nor civil war," the Jesuit declared. He added that a "Pinochetazo" would fail from the start because the United States, Venezuela and the Andean Pact countries would not support such a movement. As far as civil war is concerned, he described it as a "pretext promoted by the rightists."

"The left has said that it does not want civil war," he said. He predicted, however, that there might be a gradual worsening of the crisis that could degenerate into a catastrophe similar to that of Nicaragua. "Although," he added, "the real problem could be the 'gradual extermination' of the leftist groups," which means some "3,000 or 4,000 deaths" could be expected by the end of the year.

Ellacuria expressed support for the "democratic revolutionary government" proposed by the revolutionary coordinating board of the masses. This group, he said, "does not seek to establish a 'dictatorship of the proletariat' in El Salvador."

Regarding the present process of reforms and the state of siege imposed by the government on Thursday, Ellacuria said that "according to those who decreed them, they will protect the agrarian reform process." "However, there is the danger of militarizing the country. The state of siege makes it possible to intensify and systematize repression," he added.

CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS SOLDIERS GUARANTEE PROCESS

PA122325 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 12 Mar 80 PA

[Statement by Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia 11 March on television--recorded]

[Text] I feel that guarantees have existed, not since just now but for a long time, and for a fundamental reason. The low echelons of the armed forces are made up exclusively of persons who understand this problem at their level. I am referring to our soldiers who are mainly from the countryside, where they have grown up, and naturally, they know the environment.

Therefore, our bases made up of soldiers are perhaps the guarantee that this process will continue and be implemented perfectly. Naturally, an absolute and total guarantee is difficult to achieve, but indications are that in view of the attitude, reasoning and way of thinking of my fellow comrades-in-arms, I can state emphatically that the armed forces are disposed to guaranteeing this process for a fundamental reason, that is, that we are conscious that this process is the salvation of our country. Also, because the Salvadoran people want to return to normalcy and peace, which has not been, is not and will not be so easy.

However, if we join efforts--I refer to the Salvadoran people and its armed forces, who are from the people, that is, where we military come from and where our soldiers come from--I consider the process as guaranteed.

Therefore, I am certain that the process has support which, although not total, is of the majority of the Salvadoran people. But within the armed forces I can tell you there is total support. That is why we have identified ourselves. That is why we are convinced and want these changes to be carried out in a climate of peace, tranquillity, understanding, which is what we all need.

As I stated before on a similar occasion, in this country of El Salvador, all, absolutely all Salvadorans must contribute their grain of sand. And

why not, even a tiny sacrifice so that the Salvadoran people will resurge once again as we all wish, with tranquillity and understanding.

Let us hope that is how it will be, and that our words will linger through time as a positive prediction, born of the sincerity of a person who thinks, a person who reasons and who has also considered the thinking of his comrades-in-arms.

We are here not by commitment, but by conviction, a healthy conviction that we will march forward, but, as we said, not alone but alongside our peoples to whom we dedicate ourselves.

CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

EDITORIAL NOTES LAND REFORM EXPECTATIONS

PA112208 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Mar 80 p 7 PA

[Editorial: "Logical Expectation Concerning Agrarian Reform"]

[Text] The expectation brought on by last Thursday's promulgation of the basic agrarian reform law by the revolutionary government junta is logical.

This expectation focuses mostly on the possible effects that the reform would have on the volume of agriculture and livestock production in general. It is believed that the majority of the rural population has experienced a surprising educational deficit and this might pose an obstacle not only to understanding the measure adopted but to realizing what their role should be as they change from workers to owners.

Army members and technical administrative personnel have already occupied 50 large estates without incident. These 50 estates might be the equivalent of more or less 14 percent of the total of 386 properties that are supposed to be occupied. Their overall surface might represent 15 percent of the 2 million manzanas of cultivable land.

CSO: 3010

OFFICIALS DISCUSS LAND REFORM PROCEDURES

PA130233 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1235 GMT 12 Mar 80 PA

[Interview with Agriculture and Livestock Minister Octavio Orellana Solis and Under Secretary Jorge Alberto Villacorta during television program "El Pueblo Quiere Saber"--recorded; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Orellana Solis] Salvadoran peasants who will be the new owners under the new structures yet to be disclosed do not like hand-outs. Salvadoran peasants are noble and do not beg for alms. I think it would be offensive to a peasant to be given land. Our peasants do not like being treated as paupers. Through their efforts, Salvadoran peasants want to pay for the land and procedures will be established so they can do so in a fair and equitable manner. I think Salvadoran peasants are honest and noble and will pay for their land. Fair and intelligent systems will be established so they can pay for it.

[Question by unidentified speaker] Mr Villacorta, we have talked about basic grains. Let us talk about those products that draw the revenue to buy oil, equipment and so forth. I am talking about coffee, sugar and cotton. What will be done so production of these items will not drop?

[Villacorta] That is one of the big questions we asked ourselves when the process of [word indistinct] of agrarian reform began. In El Salvador, farming brings in the revenue which has a ripple effect in other sectors of the national economy--industry, trade and so forth. Therefore we have to make certain that production of export crops which earn revenue will be maintained, increased and diversified. In other words, not just continue growing these three items but growing other products that are easily marketable such as [word indistinct].

This has been taken into consideration in land reform. That is why our land reform has a very important characteristic: the production unity is maintained. At no time will an estate be fenced in. [Words indistinct] the same number of manzanas will be maintained without [words indistinct] and it will be maintained growing the pertinent export crops. Coffee will stay where it is. That place is the best. Cotton [words

indistinct] the area will be reduced somewhat because it had been over-extended but it will be reduced to two sizable areas and the estates which are now occupied are the big properties that grow these export items. We decided to occupy these estates to make certain that production continues. How? Through a process of joint administration between the state and peasants, maintaining the crops, increasing their production, insuring that export crops stay where they are but above all maintaining production unity. Several months ago the previous junta [words indistinct] a decree that banned the parceling of land and this law follows suit. Estates of more than 500 hectares definitely have [words indistinct] and lesser estates cannot be parceled out either. Our intention is to avoid parceling. What we are going to do is contribute to the consolidation of small plots of land so through cooperatives small and medium-sized producers can consolidate their land and be much more [words indistinct]. The answer would be to avoid parceling land and also to maintain crops according to the potential use that could be made of them. [passage indistinct] The other aspect is the diversification of our export crops.

CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

COMMUNIQUE EXPLAINS STATUS OF SUGAR MILLS

PA122223 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1235 GMT 12 Mar 80 PA

[Joint communique issued by the Economy Ministry and the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry; no date given]

[Text] This communique is to spell out the situation of the sugar mill complexes affected by the current agrarian reform process. We have made the following provisions regarding them: Until the present harvest is over, harvesting activities and equipment on the properties affected shall remain under the direction, administration and responsibility of the private owners. Included in these activities are the payment of wages and other expenses for materials for the harvest and transformation activities. Agricultural activities and the equipment used, the product of which will be obtained after the 1980-1981 harvest, shall come under the direction, administration and responsibility of the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation [ISTA]. Private owners shall immediately reimburse ISTA for its costs in harvesting and transformation activities during this harvest. ISTA shall transfer to the private owners by indorsement the receipts for the final product delivered. The yield of this harvest, cane and final products, is the property of the private owners and it is their responsibility to meet all internal and external commitments concerning that yield. The land, equipment, agroindustrial plants and so forth that are liable to expropriation shall remain as they stand pursuant to the provisions of the agrarian reform law. The purchase of cane from producers not affected by the agrarian reform process shall be done normally as has traditionally been the case.

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

LARGE LANDOWNERS ALLOWED 700 MANZANAS--Large landowners will be able to keep 700 manzanas instead of 144 manzanas as unofficially reported a week ago. They can be taxed for them or mortgage them pursuant to the new agrarian reform law, according to data on the matter. Revolutionary government junta members yesterday continued touring countryside estates which have been affected by land reform. They found out first hand how the news has been received by the owners. Agriculture Ministry and Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation officials began to hold talks with the large rural owners to discuss in detail the new land reform provisions. They are insisting that the state guarantees to all owners of estates of less than 500 hectares, the equivalent of 700 manzanas, that they can grow their 1980-1981 crops since they will not be incorporated into the agrarian reform process during this time. Finally, they are officially inviting all national farmers to cultivate calmly and carefully this year, thus participating in the country's economic development and helping establish a climate of social peace needed by all Salvadorans. [Text] [PA120222 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 11 Mar 80 pp 2, 26 PA]

CSO: 3010

EDITORIAL EXAMINES FAILURE OF AGRARIAN REFORM LAW

PA110406 San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Feb 80 p 6 PA

[Editorial: "The Agrarian Reform That Never Was"]

[Excerpt] According to the first article of the agrarian reform law passed on 30 December 1974, the agrarian reform was conceived to "establish a socially fair system in the farm sector of the country to guarantee the effective participation of the peasants in the country's economic, social and cultural development."

Today, 5 years after the government of the armed forces expressed these goals, we could do well to analyze what happened to that "first" article.

The Superior Council of the Armed Forces finally approved the law, after long studies. Their decision expressed the government's awareness that the peasants were the most exploited group in our nation, as was shown at the meeting titled "Agrarian Week" held in Tegucigalpa from 18 to 23 August 1975.

Some land has been given to peasants, but mostly under pressure, which the peasants call recovery and the landowners call seizure.

However, with few exceptions, the Honduran peasants, except those in a few cooperatives, are living in the same historical poverty and lacking the same bare essentials as before.

Why was it that the plan did not bring the results expected by the planners and the beneficiaries of the agrarian reform?

There were many errors in its application. There were many errors by the planners and by the beneficiaries, and the opposition took advantage of those mistakes to turn the law into a useless legal instrument from the political viewpoint. This means, that not only the exploited of the past were beneficiaries of the law. [sentence as published]

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

DEPUTY MINISTER EXPLAINS LAW ON DRAINING OF CAPITAL

PA082150 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] Businessmen who insist on draining capital out of their firms will be punished severely. In view of the fact that certain reactionary businessmen, enemies of our revolutionary process, insist on draining capital from their enterprises and that there are capitalists in the rural sector who are smuggling cattle and agricultural products, it is good to remind them that our revolutionary government, through the Justice Ministry, is studying specific cases in order to apply the Sandinist law against the withdrawal of capital.

It is not a coincidence that our economy is being blocked. It is not by chance that thousands of cattle are being taken out of the country illegally. However, the voice of the people's power, the voice of our peasants and workers, was heard at the appropriate government organizations when they spoke against merchants, businessmen and capitalists who are enemies of the Sandinist people's revolution.

Deputy Justice Minister Eric (Trijalva) explained this quite well by stating that the workers in the factories and the peasants on the farms are the ones to watch over the compliance of the law against withdrawal of capital so that the 1980 economic reactivation plan will be defended.

The Justice Ministry is investigating specific cases of counterrevolutionary managers. We hereby remind those who insist on their unpatriotic attitude that a government decree was issued to punish these crimes.

This station interviewed the justice deputy minister on this:

[Begin recording] [Question] What mechanisms is the Justice Ministry using to detect managers who are draining capital out of their firms?

[Answer] The mechanisms that will be used will be provided by the working class, which is the one to defend the interests of the revolution. The interests of the revolution are at the same time the interests of the working class. As Commander Borge said, we must be on the alert to avoid irregularities in our revolutionary and production processes. The attorney general's office will conduct an initial investigation after the workers have made the accusation. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

BORGE MAKES CLOSING SPEECH ON WOMEN'S WEEK

PA131550 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2050 GMT 9 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 9 Mar (ACAN-TE)--Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge announced today that one of the first laws on behalf of women to be approved in this country will benefit single mothers.

Borge spoke at the final ceremony commemorating women's week, held at Plaza de los Trabajadores.

Delegations of women from all over the country could be seen at the plaza participating in this demonstration, for which attendance has been estimated at several thousand.

According to Borge, although a war was waged in Nicaragua to liberate a society, a second war has to be waged now to liberate the Nicaraguan woman.

He called for the establishment of a government in which both "men and women" participate.

He added that if women had been present in all the battles waged against Somoza's regime and in all the struggles that had taken place, they should now be in the front line, reconstructing the nation.

He stressed, nonetheless, that the liberation of women will not be achieved "as long as man is above woman and as long as discrimination and prostitution continue to exist."

He spoke of the need to organize women and make them politically aware.

"Woman in Nicaragua" week concluded with a demonstration staged through the capital's streets, which began in front of the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Women's House.

Women in the people's militias marched in their uniforms--olive green trousers, brown shirt and black beret and boots.

"We tell the CIA: Either they leave or we expel them," was one of the slogans most often heard during the demonstration.

DECREE ISSUED ON ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN INSURANCE COMPANIES

PA131851 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Mar 80 p 9 PA

[Text] The government junta recently issued a decree dealing with the activity and operation of the branches of foreign insurance companies in Nicaragua.

The law establishes that these branches must continue to have a manager in Nicaragua. They cannot transfer abroad their authorized capital and reserves. However, they can decrease it bearing in mind that in view of the suspension of insurance activities, the volume of operations which the company had planned to carry out and which served as a basis for its establishment, will not be realized.

However, the law adds that the decrease of the authorized capital cannot reach amounts which reduce the capital to less than the minimum demanded by Article 30 of the General Law of Insurance Institutions.

The decree specifies that with the prior agreement of the Nicaraguan Insurance and Reinsurance Institute, the branches can transfer to the Nicaraguan institute their portfolio of valid insurance policies with the authorization and approval of the superintendancy banks and other institutions which will watch over the implementation of this transfer.

It warns that for no reason can the branches turn over or transfer their insurance policies to their parent company or other foreign branch or foreign company.

The decree establishes that the branches cannot withdraw from the country until they have concluded or transferred their portfolio of insurance policies and have canceled their various obligations in Nicaragua. It also states that the remitting of funds abroad must be authorized by the superintendancy.

CSO: 3010

JUSTICE MINISTER EXPLAINS EXPROPRIATIONS DECREE

PA121246 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Mar 80 pp 1, 9 PA

[Article by Horacio Ruiz]

[Text] In view of the confusion caused by Decree No 329 of the National Reconstruction Junta on land expropriations announced Monday night, LA PRENSA Tuesday interviewed Justice Minister Dr Ernesto Castillo Martinez on various points of the decree. The interview follows:

[Question] As a clarification for the public, could you give us the legal definition of the confiscations and expropriations by the revolutionary government?

[Answer] Confiscations are the total transfer of certain assets to the state without any possible appeal or economic compensation of any sort. Decree No 3 determined the confiscation of Somoza family assets as well as those of the militarymen and officials of the Somozist regime. Article 38 imposes confiscation of the assets of all persons related to Somozism. The expropriations mean that certain assets are transferred to the state for reasons of public utility. In some cases, the expropriation is made without economic compensation to the owner. In our case, however, there will be economic compensation to the owners whose assets are expropriated.

[Question] What is the scope of Decree No 329, issued Tuesday?

[Answer] Decree No 329 determines the expropriation of all personal property and real estate which at present are being managed by the National Institute of Agrarian Reform [INRA], even though its owners may be exempt from confiscation according to the already mentioned Articles 3 and 38, which determined the confiscation of the Somoza family assets, as well as militarymen and officials of the Somozist regime. In the Pacific area those properties being managed by INRA will not be subject to expropriation as long as they do not exceed 25 and 50 manzanas, respectively.

[Question] When will the land of persons not affected by Decrees 3 and 38 be expropriated, being property managed by INRA?

[Answer] Those cases in which the land has been occupied de facto by peasants, either because they have traditionally claimed ownership or because, in the rash of land occupations which took place with the victory of the revolution, they were also invaded by peasants anxious to own some land they could work.

[Question] Is there any instance in which property will be returned by the government to its owner for not being affected by Articles 3 and 38 and not being considered of public utility, or not having been affected by de facto occupation by peasants?

[Answer] Yes, there are cases in which property will be returned to its owners, after investigation is completed.

[Question] Has any such property already been returned?

[Answer] None so far.

[Question] Does Decree No 329 mean that if the property of a person not related to Somozism and who was not an official or a militaryman under that regime and covered, say, 26 manzanas, and has been occupied de facto by peasants in the Pacific sector, then such a property has been expropriated by the government?

[Answer] That is correct.

[Question] Decree No 329, in Article 2, refers to personal property and real property. Does this mean that the many persons who for months have been trying to recover their expropriated vehicles and who have shown evidence that they are not affected by Articles 3 and 38 can no longer continue claiming such property, even considering that such assets cannot be considered of public utility?

[Answer] That has been an error of interpretation. The decree does not refer to motor vehicles in such a situation--in other words, automobiles, jeeps, trucks, station wagons and so forth. The article refers to personal property found on expropriated real property and which may be useful in farm work, such as tractors, trucks, transport vehicles which are part of the expropriated property, definitely being useful elements in the production process.

[Question] But it so happens that there are many persons who still cannot recover their vehicles, despite having evidence from the attorney general's office that the expropriation has been revoked?

[Answer] In such cases efforts must continue directly through the competent authorities; that is, the claimant can ask that his vehicle, already released from confiscation, be returned to him through the police.

[Question] It is difficult to obtain figures on these agrarian matters. How many cases are there of de facto occupations of properties expropriated by Decree No 329?

[Answer] There are fewer such cases than many believe or seem to believe. In fact, aside from areas where land occupations have been traditional by groups of peasants who claimed to have old deeds over such lands and to have been evicted, cases which we could consider "routine," other cases of de facto occupation have been few.

[Question] What would happen, say, if someone has property of 50 manzanas or less in the Atlantic sector, which is excluded from the decreed expropriation, and has been occupied de facto by the peasants?

[Answer] In such a case INRA would be responsible for evicting the peasants through appropriate means and relocating them in other areas under its management. This type of property would have to be cleared and its original owner would again take full possession.

[PA121311] The 30-Day Period

[Question] The people have been asking about the 30-day period that was decreed to claim property seized by the government and the status of this 30-day period in regard to Decree No 329.

[Answer] This has been another misinterpretation. This 30-day period only applies to persons outside the country. They were given that period to present their claims because a certain situation of expropriation cannot be prolonged indefinitely. Persons who have remained in the country are not subject to that deadline and their claims are not limited to a specific period. These claims can be filed until the attorney general's office issues a ruling on them.

[Question] How will the state pay for the lands and chattels mentioned in the decree?

[Answer] Article 4 clearly states that "persons affected (by the expropriations) will be indemnified according to the valuation procedures and other procedures that will be established in a subsequent law." Payment will be made through state certificates or bonds with a 6.5-percent annual interest rate and with terms and conditions that will be established for the issue of these certificates.

[Question] Has a date been set for the issue and delivery of these certificates?

[Answer] Not yet.

Future Expropriations

[Question] In its first article, Decree No 329 states that there will be future expropriations "only for agrarian reform purposes." Will the procedure established in the decree be followed in these cases?

[Answer] No. Future expropriations for the exclusive use of agrarian reform are a more delicate matter. They will be subject to stricter restitution procedures. There will also be a difference regarding the valuation of the land. It must be that way because it isn't the same for the state to pay for land with 1,000 manzanas of coffee in full production and to pay for land with 1,000 manzanas of mountains or pastures. The terms of payment will also be different. It is not the same for the state to have to pay for land valued at 1 million cordobas and to have to pay for land valued at 100,000 cordobas. Paying for land worth 1 million cordobas logically will take more time.

[Question] What does it mean when it says that the larger the property expropriated, the less the government will have to pay for it? This is what some people, who have tried to analyze the present and future situation of the country's agrarian system, understand.

[Answer] There will not be any lower payment because of the mere fact that one property is larger than the other. The valuation will be exclusively determined by the status of the production and the quality of the property. I repeat: A medium-sized farm with a full coffee production of approximately 500 manzanas could result in a larger payment by the government than one with approximately 5,000 manzanas where there is only mountains and grass. Consequently this payment will not be based on the size of the second one but on the clear, specific and superior value of the first.

[Question] What is the current status of the expropriations?

[Answer] They were suspended on 21 November by the decree issued in that regard.

[Question] How can it be that they are suspended when Decree No 329 is precisely ordering new expropriations?

[Answer] Because it is a case of the expropriation of lands, I repeat, which were already under the administration and control of INRA.

[Question] How will the expropriation of future lands for the exclusive use of the agrarian reform be made?

[Answer] The expropriation of lands has been suspended since 21 November. However, the junta has the power to order the resumption of expropriations. It must be explained that future expropriations will be made based on technical studies by INRA, and this is contemplated in the basic government statute which has been in effect since July 1979.

[Question] What are the reasons given for the expropriations in Decree No 329?

[Answer] Two. First to cover the present needs of the agrarian reform, and second to freeze the problem of land occupations in certain farm areas, which have been already mentioned, and the de facto land occupations which took place after the revolutionary victory.

[PA121344] The Realities

[Question] It was originally believed that the state lands and those seized from Somozists would be enough to implement the agrarian reform. Has there been any change in this?

[Answer] I am not an agrarian expert, but I dare say there was never a firm view in this regard. A Somoza property of 1,000 manzanas may be very good land but no good for the agrarian reform. However, five or six small properties surrounding this hypothetical Somoza land may be ideal for the agrarian reform. It is for the experts in this field to decide.

[Question] What can you tell us about the possibility that the Nicaraguan agrarian reform has become generalized to the extent that all arable land in the country is to be used in the agrarian reform?

[Answer] My answer is no. The government and the Sandinist National Liberation Front will issue expropriation measures for the agrarian reform as prescribed by law and only to meet the needs of the reform.

[Text of Decree]

Article 1. Effective immediately and aside from cases contemplated in this decree, there will be no more land expropriations except for agrarian reform use as prescribed in Article 27 of the statute on the rights and guarantees of Nicaraguans. These land expropriations will be regulated according to general laws and regulations that will be issued for the case. Indemnifications must be contemplated in these same laws.

Article 2. The government hereby decrees the expropriation of all chattels and real property which have been intervened or are under the management of INRA on the date this law is published and whose proprietors are not subject to confiscation according to the appropriate laws.

This law does not apply to those proprietors whose properties do not total more than 25 manzanas in the Pacific area and 50 manzanas in the rest of the country.

Article 3. INRA will have to send a report to the attorney general's office clearly identifying properties which have been expropriated. After this is done, the attorney general's office will issue a certificate stating that the property has been expropriated.

If the assets expropriated are real estate, the attorney general will issue four copies of the certificate which will be distributed as follows: One for the corresponding public registry office, one for the National Geographic Institute, one for INRA and one to be filed at the attorney general's office. In these cases, the public registry office will record the real estate being transferred to the state in a book that will include the content of the certificate issued by the attorney general's office.

If the assets expropriated are chattels, the attorney general's office will issue two certifications, one that will serve as a title for INRA and the other to be filed at the attorney general's office. If the transfer has to be recorded in another entity or registry, INRA will request the necessary copies for the entity or registry in question.

Article 4. Those affected by the expropriations authorized by this law will be indemnified according to valuation procedures and other paper work to be established in a subsequent law.

The payment of indemnification will be made through the issue of certificates or bonds by the state for agrarian reform purposes. The certificates will be nominative, non-negotiable and will receive a 6.5-percent annual interest rate. They will be subject to terms and other conditions that will be established in the law under which they are issued.

These certificates may be used to cancel debts with: the National Treasury, the municipal juntas, autonomous entities and institutions of the financial system. They may also be used for amortization of mortgages financed by savings and credit institutions, to purchase chattels or real property owned by the government and to serve as collateral for loans granted by the national financial system. All of this conforming to regulations which will be opportunely issued.

Article 5. In order to obtain indemnification as prescribed in this law, the owners of the assets in question will have to go to INRA and present the certificate issued by the attorney general's office which states that the interested person is not subject to confiscation and is not included in Decrees 3 and 38 issued by the government junta in 1979.

The certificate issued by the attorney general's office must state that the interested party:

- a) Is not subject to confiscation;
- b) Has not given up [permitido] his rights over the assets as prescribed in Decree No 282 of 7 February 1980.

Article 6. Land claims made by peasants, cooperatives or farming communities will be made solely through the regulatory mechanisms INRA will establish for that purpose.

Article 7. This law will enter into effect on the date it is published in the Official Gazette.

Issued in Managua, 29 February 1980. /Year of the Literacy Campaign/

/Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction/

/Violeta B. de Chamorro, Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Moises Hassan Morales, Alfonso Robelo Callejas, Daniel Ortega Saavedra/ [passages in slantlines published in uppercase]

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

ROBELO SUPPORTS RIGHTS OF SMALL BUSINESSMEN

PA121222 Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish 1930 GMT 11 Mar 80 PA

[Speech by Alfonso Robelo, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at meeting with small business representatives 9 March in Managua—recorded]

[Excerpts] Even if I have my own views, I am still a member of the junta, which is in charge of making decisions. What I am saying here today is not the promises that politicians used to make; I believe in what I say and I will see that what I say is carried out. [cheers, applause] On listening to your demands, I realize that the only way to govern a country is to listen to the people to hear what they have to say. You who are present here today are an important sector of the Nicaraguan people. [cheers, applause]

I have heard the people talk about the need to maintain unity. That is true. It is more important than to promote hatred, which is destructive. We have to understand that reconstruction of the country can only be possible if we are united. [applause]

I agree that we cannot ignore the extraordinary participation by the small businessmen, small farmers and private enterprise in general in supporting the struggle against the tyrant and his regime. You are not the opportunists or hypocrites of this revolution; you were always in favor of a free Nicaragua. [cheers, applause]

I must admit that I do not know of any formula for the country's reconstruction other than work and sacrifice. As a matter of fact, I do not know of any revolution which made any progress without hard work. I agree with you completely that it is a big mistake and a highly irresponsible attitude to build false hopes among the Nicaraguan people by making them believe the situation is going to change overnight. Let us tell the people our true situation, so that we can start working united, with true love, with no hatred, for genuine reconstruction of a new Nicaragua. [applause]

You have talked about freedom and free enterprise. I wish to refer to this issue in particular: [Words indistinct] the Nicaraguans have an obligation today and forever to the martyrs who gave their lives and to the revolution for which there was so much bloodshed. [applause]

Regarding free enterprise, I am clearly stating here that I am in favor of free enterprise. [cheers, applause] I believe in free enterprise as the most efficient way of supplying basic products for the people. [Words indistinct] you have a patriotic and revolutionary duty to fulfill. It is up to you to prove that you can be responsible and that you are not out to commit abuses, because you are part of the people and it is not right for you to hurt the people of which you are a part. [cheers, applause]

The role of the Nicaraguan Basic Food Enterprise [ENABAS] is not to interfere with free enterprise. That is not ENABAS' role. [cheers, applause] ENABAS should work as a state agency, parallel to free enterprise, not against it, not creating it obstacles, preventing abuses being committed by some bad Nicaraguans. That is ENABAS' role. We do not want ENABAS monopolizing, obstructing or interfering with private enterprise because that would only create uncertainty, which can lead to other vices, which has already caused hunger in our country, and that is a crime. [cheers, applause]

It is time to stop thinking about our personal gain. We must think about benefiting all Nicaraguans and all Nicaragua. We must realize that, united, we must carry out the gigantic task of reconstruction. We have a role besides being businessmen: to defend the freedom gained with the blood of all Nicaraguans. We cannot lose the freedom to work and free enterprise. [cheers, applause]

There are other freedoms that you, as honest men, have the obligation to defend. I am referring to political freedoms--of being able to choose the political organization [words indistinct]. I am referring to the freedom you have to practice any profession. [cheers, applause] I am referring to the freedom to form unions according to your business. [cheers, applause]

I want to conclude by telling you that I am defending your interests, but in turn you must act with patriotic responsibility. As I said before, a Sandinist revolutionary, because Sandinism is to be genuinely Nicaraguan, has an obligation only to the people. [applause]

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

1,500 POLICEMEN PURGED FROM POLICE RANKS

PA131740 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1656 GMT 9 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 9 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Some 1,500 Nicaraguan policemen have been dismissed since 19 July last year "for not having properly fulfilled that which is expected of a Sandinist policeman."

The number of policemen expelled from police ranks has been disclosed by Nicaraguan Interior Ministry spokesmen. It has also been announced that a training and administration school for policemen has begun operating.

According to Deputy Interior Minister Jose Valdivia, a purge is taking place among policemen.

At the same time, he added, courses and seminars are being held so policemen can become better citizens and better revolutionaries.

It has also been announced that the Interior Ministry authorities have appointed a new police chief for Managua. He is Enrique Schmitd Cuadra. [Words indistinct] to the newsmen, Schmitd admitted that the Sandinist Front won the war with an army and not with the police corps.

He admitted that at present "there is a total lack of experience in police matters," mostly because many joined the police without knowing the meaning of the work they were to carry out.

According to Schmitd Cuadra, the police will become better "once it acquires the necessary experience."

The school that was inaugurated will train all Nicaraguan policemen.

Almost at the same time the change in police chief was announced, the Sandinist People's Army's auditing office (former army prosecuting office [FISCALIA]) announced that 17 former army and police members will be turned over to the common courts, charged with various crimes.

Nicaragua does not have military penal laws. A bill on this is being currently revised by the Nicaraguan Justice Ministry.

The crimes committed by the 17 former military include murders, rapes, thefts, holdups and forgery.

One of the former officers to be tried is Luis Fernando Blanco, who killed former Sandinist soldier Santiago Flores in Diriamba 1 week ago.

Blanco's crime elicited a popular uprising in Diriamba, in the south, where an angry mob asked the authorities to turn the prisoner over to them so they could try him publicly.

Contact bombs, demonstrations and fires were among the forms of protest that the people of Diriamba resorted to. Emotions subsided somewhat when the Sandinist police promised to impart justice in the case of the former Sandinist soldier.

CSO: 3010

PANAMA

JUSTICE MINISTER DISCUSSES FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

PA120111 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1734 GMT 9 Mar 80 PA

[Speech by Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Rodriguez on the occasion of the First National Freight Transportation Congress, held at the National Telecommunications Institute Club in Chitre, Herrera Province, on 9 March--live]

[Excerpts] With the permission and consent of the companion transporters, I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to (?discuss) another topic, which is of national interest also. I am talking about the freedom of expression.

For the past few days, the country has been engaged in a dispute involving certain sectors in connection with the existence or nonexistence of freedom of expression in our country.

These incidents, which have led to truly offensive expressions on the part of the opposition sectors, deserve comment, particularly here, in front of working people, people who have no time to offend, upset or create (?mutinies) because their time is devoted to moving the wheels of the country's economy along our roads. [applause] These are people who do not have 3 hours to devote exclusively to offensive expressions and subversion but work to build the country, to create the country's wealth and transport of the country's products. It is here, in front of them, in my role as minister and representative of the government that I feel the obligation to explain the present developments and their origin.

Perhaps many of you have not heard what is being said or have not analyzed the present developments either fully (?or in half) because you are busy working and have no time to go around gossiping.

All Panamanians are entitled to freedom of expression. Panamanians, individually and collectively, also have duties in connection with that freedom of expression. Each of us individually is entitled to and has obligations in connection with freedom of expression.

It is the same for the state. The state has duties connected with freedom of expression. It has fundamental duties. What are those duties?

The duty of those who exercise the freedom of expression is that of exercising it with care and in accordance with the restrictions that the constitution and the laws establish.

Freedom of expression is limited by respect for the dignity of others. The very constitution, in the article establishing individual rights, establishes as the first right of Panamanians the obligation of the government and the state to protect the lives, dignity and property of all Panamanians. First of all, the life, then the dignity and lastly, the property of Panamanians. But some people here want us to defend property first, then the lives and then the dignity of the individuals. We are determined to do things correctly. We believe in the Panamanian people's right to lead a free and democratic life. We believe in the right of all Panamanians, government officials [word indistinct] to live with dignity and be respected.

But individuals must exercise the right to freedom of expression responsibly within a framework of legality and respect for the dignity and lives of others.

On the other hand, there is the duty of the state. The duty of the state falls within the framework of justice and the law. We must guarantee all Panamanians the right to exercise their freedom of expression. The state cannot interfere when any Panamanian, through some organization or by individual means wishes to express himself freely at demonstrations, meetings, on radio, through the press or on television. We cannot interfere. We are obliged to support this [word indistinct] by Panamanians, but within the framework of [words indistinct] and respect for others. Because the very moment slander becomes a method, the very moment dishonor becomes a method, that very moment we are (?destroying) that which we seek to guarantee, that is, the right to freedom of expression. As a state, we must watch so that right is exercised correctly. We also have the duty of reestablishing order whenever [words indistinct].

The social communications media must be regulated by special guidelines. These media must be objective, they must base their reports on real facts, not stories. The social communications media must abide by the truth. They cannot serve as instruments of lies. The very moment that the social communications media lose their objectivity and lie, they become instruments of social crisis, violence and destruction.

[PA120145] Almost 1 year ago, pressured by the continuous campaign of defamation and dishonor waged in certain communications media, his excellency the president of the republic [words indistinct] regulating the exercise of the freedom of expression and the exercise of the profession of radio commentator.

At the request and [word indistinct] of responsible and respectful radio commentators, a dialog similar to this one was held with Panama City's best known radio commentators. As a result of that dialog, both the president of the republic and the government and justice minister promised to abolish Decree No 58 [words indistinct]. The president did abolish Decree No 58. The response to this gesture by the president was to have been the correct exercise of the freedom of expression through the social communications media. For 1 week, radio commentators abided by their promise, but after that, you have read their words in the papers and have heard them on radio. It is not I, the government and justice minister, it is not the national government or his excellency the president of the republic who are making up statements. All Panamanians have been witnesses to what has and what has not been said. You have witnessed the fact that [words indistinct] and even before he became president of the republic, the president has endured with great patience the worst offenses any Panamanian has had to endure or receive [words indistinct] General Torrijos himself.

This was (?the president's) way of acting, but (?those friends) misinterpreted his attitude of acceptance of those offenses in order to maintain what, in his view, constituted the broadest form of freedom of expression. They said the man lacked guts. But now that he is showing his guts, they say he is a tyrant. So where do we stand?

My companions, the problem is not Dr Royo. The problem is not the dignity of Panamanians, the problem is that the traditional political leaders of old want to return, but do not know how to do it by means of elections. So they are resorting to subversive methods and that is where all this wave of disrespectful and irresponsible radio comments originates. That is the direction all this is pointing to: to the alleged downfall of the government, because every day people in the coffee houses say the government is falling. But the government is simply remaining calm and quiet as General Torrijos has taught us. But General Torrijos, who is our teacher, our political father, our spiritual father, our brother and our political blood, has taught us that when the government lets its hand fall, it can be too strong, and this is why the finger cannot be dropped just because somebody says so. It is preferable for us to be humble and above all, [words indistinct] exercise power abusively, that we may fall by the very weight of our power over [words indistinct].

But if violence is encouraged by those who ignore the constitutional order, the revolution's transformations and President Royo's and General Torrijos' love of democracy and freedom, then these people have chosen the path of violence. But not the type of violence that [words indistinct] out in the streets, but the type of violence [words indistinct], promoted in the unions and in the civic organizations. Those elements do not come out front to wage the battle because they know that if we confront each other at the front, we will not confront them with the

same affection and respect we treated the teachers. So they resort to other methods, such as defamation, slander, rumor and the agitation of the various fronts making demands and of the workers, against the government. They do not seek solutions to the problems.

This is our stand on the current problems. As government and justice minister and in the name of his excellency the president of the republic I must tell you, who are members of a representative group and through you to all of the country's workers, peasants and all other sectors of the revolution, that we believe in freedom of expression and are committed to it. We believe in democracy and are committed to it. The path to resolving the country's political problems is through a dignified and respectful political debate--with ballots, not bullets. Either we or the others will win the next elections, but whoever wins, wins and his victory will be recognized. That is the way, not through harassment or defamation, because in the face of that, we will remain on our feet. In the face of violence and defamation, we will stand on our feet. [words indistinct]

At a given moment this revolution confronted the worst threats of U.S. imperialism, but we did not back down and we were not scared. We are still directing the country and we are among the principal Third World leaders defending the integrity and sovereignty of all states and of our nation. We have laid the groundwork for our fatherland's total independence on 31 December 1999. If we have not been (?defeated) or scared by imperialism, then these ridiculous local agitators will not be the ones to question our integrity as a government or our security as a state.

As a messenger of President Royo, as messenger of General Torrijos--whose political son I am--as a messenger of this revolutionary process and as messenger of all the forces supporting Dr Royo's government, I repeat that our commitment is with freedom and democracy. Thank you very much. [applause]

CSO: 3010

TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

BRIEFS

LOCAL ELECTIONS IN TRINIDAD--In Trinidad, local government elections are to be held on the 21st of next month to fill 12 county and two municipal councils. Government sources made the announcement today. For the first time in the history of the twin island state, local government elections will not be held simultaneously in Tobago due to the proposal for the establishment of a Tobago Island council. [FL112131 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 11 Mar 80 FL]

CS0: 3020

END

SELECTIVE LIST OF JPRS SERIAL REPORTS

WORLDWIDE SERIAL REPORTS

WORLDWIDE REPORT: Environmental Quality
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Epidemiology
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Law of the Sea
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Nuclear Development and Proliferation
WORLDWIDE REPORT: Telecommunications Policy, Research and Development

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